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REVIEWS.

ON TAXATION.*

THE administrative functions of government are rapidly being limited to the charge of the revenue, and political philosophy is in the course of being identified with political economy. These circumstances are due to a variety of causes of great and increasing influence; and these causes, as powerful motive-forces in the present state of a portion of European society, ought to be recognised, not only that we may know the condition in which we are, but that we may be cautious in applying the maxims and phenomena of the highest European civilisation to those regions of the earth's surface where the same conditions are wanting and the same causes cannot operate. For instance, nothing is more common than that people, from a mere one-sided view of the economical condition of England, should argue to the economical condition of India, and urge the same remedial measures in Hindostan which are found available here. The danger in which such reasoners are placed is that of their perpetual liability to the fallacy *a non tali pro tali*—a fallacy which has led to more delusion, disappointment, and mischief than any practical form of fallacy whatsoever.

Every one of the marked features of civilisation in England has led to this mutation in the old political system. The Reform Bill, the success of free trade measures—matters in which all, or nearly all, persons agree; the extraordinary development of material prosperity; the great growth of population, with what was not expected when former theories on this subject were accepted—the concurrent rise in the price of labour; the general rise in the price of the raw materials, and the fall in the price of manufactured products; the growth of public morality, despite the alarming statistics of crime and ignorance; the increase of education; the force with which the acknowledged union of capital and skill have developed these material results; and the equal force with which a very far higher standard of conventional decorum influences all persons; the substitution of confidence for patronage; of credit and good faith for authority; the direct and inevitable inference of success to the energy of the worker, and the perseverance with which he follows out his purpose; the settled consciousness that legislative interference is no assistance to the development of wealth, but a hindrance, and, maybe, a destruction; and with it the impression that governments are the worst speculators, the worst dealers in ordinary business, the worst managers conceivable; are, among others, permanent causes why it is that the old energies of politics have very largely passed away.

The reform of finance began, as is well known, in the Liverpool Administration, under the auspices of Mr. Huskisson, when the government, after much schooling, approached the power of comprehending the great adage of Swift, that in the arithmetic of the customs two and two do not always make four. From this time it has been carried on with more or less continuity; till at present the system of British finance is comprehensible to almost every person who has any education in political arithmetic, and it is based as much as possible

on the relaxation of all restraints on production, and the removal of all discouragement to industry and thrift. One does not mean to say that the economical system of government is already removed from the domain of criticism, and arrived at an equitable perfection. The war of political parties, though this war has its inconveniences, impediments, and unfairnesses, has done very much towards doing away with those evils in the fiscal system of England, which disfigured it forty years ago, and which, even when they were much modified, were the cause of hindrances to national prosperity, and the development of national wealth, till the measures of Peel in 1842 and 1847. But there still remains very much to be done, on parts of that system, in the way of amelioration. Such changes can only be glanced at here. The settlement of the income tax, both as to its permanent amount—it is idle to doubt its permanence—and the determination of the question as to whether the calculations on which it shall be levied shall assume the graduation of payments, or the principle of different sources, is one of the most obvious of these *agenda*. So, again, succession duties, and taxes analogous to them, levied from corporations, are far from settled points in fiscal legislation. Similar to these, and only separated from them by the accident which has handed over such revenues to immediate municipal control, are the various provisions for the relief of the poor, and eminently among them the law of settlement. Further, there is room for additional improvement in the regulation of the excise, in the establishment of bonded warehouses where house-room is cheap, and the reconsideration of some among the remaining protectionist provisions of the customs acts.

But, whatever may be the existing blemishes in the present fiscal system of England, it is marvellously perfect when contrasted with that which prevails in other countries, and the development of foreign finance in the direction of protection and prohibition. Most of our readers will remember the alarm which prevailed among linen manufacturers when the late commercial treaty fixed the maximum duty on imports at thirty per cent. *ad valorem*. Why, this was three times as high as the maximum *ad valorem* duty—with one exception—in the treaty of 1787. So a similar prohibitive system prevails in Spain, Austria, in great degree in the Zollverein, and largely in Russia. The chief markets for English goods are far away from the centre of British manufactures, unless, as is probably the case to a larger amount than anybody can estimate, the prohibitive systems of the Continent are remedied by extensive smuggling.

Now, there is nothing which is more characteristic of the English nation—and this whether the subject be politics or trade—than the slowness with which a public principle is accepted, and the corresponding resolution to work it out at all risks and in all its fulness. For instance, one can quote the emancipation of the colonial blacks, at a vast national cost, and with the certainty, as events have proved, of a serious, an overwhelming, depreciation of colonial interests. Again, the demolition of the practice of protection, and the adoption of the principle of free trade, has been carried out, at any rate in great matters, to the uttermost possible limit. It is true, that here the increased stimulus given to production, and economy of capital and labour, and the power of adaptation to a set of different circumstances, have made the change highly beneficial instead of evil. But it may be doubted whether the moral energies of other nations

are equal to such changes and such sacrifices. Still more characteristic, however, than either of these cases, have been the correlative inferences derived from the circumstances under which the fiscal reforms of 1842 were supplemented. In a time of profound peace, but of great commercial distress, certain changes were made in the sources of revenue, and that in the face of an acknowledged deficiency. It was found that commerce and manufactures were suffering under some mysterious disease, the true causes of which were partly unknown and obscure, but were in part notably obvious. The obvious causes—already in their degree determined—were the state of the customs and excise, which were based on a system as cumbrous, difficult, and repressive as could well be conceived. The obscure, and as yet undetermined causes, were the corn and navigation laws, and with them the system of differential duties. The right course would have been to have taken these last first, but the direction of public opinion, and the pressure of what were conceived to be threatened interests, were so strong an impediment to rational legislation, that nothing, humanly speaking, could have brought about the change of 1847, but the fact of a ministry, overpoweringly strong, called upon to legislate for the fearfully abnormal condition induced by the Irish famine. The fabric of protection, of exclusion, and of differential duties, was in effect swept away by those contingencies.

Now, out of the change of 1842, certain arrangements had to be made to meet the large deficiencies of a declining revenue, and of financial emancipation. The means was the income tax, a tax which probably never would have been levied if the legislation of 1847 had preceded that of 1842. As it was, it not only introduced a marked novelty in the ordinary process of English finance, but it gave rise to those pronounced theories of direct taxation which have occupied so much energy, and have assumed so formidable proportions. The immediate cause of these theories was the acknowledged necessity of freeing labour and floating capital from impediments in the development of profits; and the most extravagant statements were and are current about the extent to which labour and capital are crippled by the operation of excise and customs duties. How erroneous this view is, may be very easily demonstrated, though it is not to the purpose to discuss this question at present, especially as a very cursory survey of the existing system of finance would determine it.

This is supplied by Professor Leone Levi's work. The treatise on taxation which he has published is in effect an expansion of an article under his hand, which appeared lately in the "Journal of the Statistical Society." It is a plain and accurate statement of the various sources of revenue, coupled with short accounts of the history and development of the several means which have been adopted for the maintenance of national credit and necessary expenditure. Such a work is just now very much to the purpose, as it is, without being a controversial treatise at all, a practical exposition of the direction in which taxation is at present levied; and, by implication, some elucidation of that difficult and complicated problem of economic science—the incidence of taxation. The account of public expenditure is, as it should be, statistical, for the political economist is busied with the sources of revenue, and still more with their indirect effects on labour and its employment, of capital and its profits; but except as a matter of fact, he is not concerned with the criticism of expenditure, a branch of

* On Taxation. By Leone Levi, Barrister-at-Law, Professor of the Principles and Practice of Commerce, King's College, London. (London: J. W. Parker.)

public economy which is left to the domain of practical politics and legislative ethics.

Candid statements on these subjects, and plain tables containing a readable and intelligible account of the revenue, and its uses, are of especial value at a time when loose and rash statements are made about the immediate incidence of taxation, not only by slovenly demagogues, but by men who are unintentionally given to misrepresentation; and for this purpose Mr. Levi's book contains all that one can wish, and is of great practical utility.

After this praise, and praise on what is decidedly the main object of the treatise, it may seem a little ungracious to notice Mr. Levi's defects, and especially when these defects are matters of style. But it is the business of those who review the labours of others, to point out what is objectionable as well in method as in matter. The author is unhappy in his metaphors and his compliments. When a man talks of "precious gems one after another extracted from the necklaces of protection," and "the products of genius being conveyed fresh from the reservoirs of thought, reason, and observation, to the stream of popular intelligence," and "a hurricane of necessities,"—we might quote many more such phrases—he talks nonsense. Metaphors are not arguments, but they may be illustrations; these, we submit, are as little like the latter as they can be like the former. Better not be poetical in a treatise on taxation.

Nor can we say much better things of Mr. Levi's dedication. It would be worth while to learn whether, in the days of dedications—days, happily for the credit and integrity of literature, long gone by—the noble and learned read the dedication before they permitted it. It would have been well if Mr. Gladstone had corrected Mr. Levi's luxuriant and comprehensive courtesies. We respect and admire the Chancellor of the Exchequer as much as anybody reasonably can, and for those virtues and abilities which our author enunciates. But it is surely out of place in a treatise on taxation to recognise not only Mr. Gladstone's financial administration, but his classical learning and powers of eloquence, for the publicity with which the statesman propounds high principles of honour and duty, and for the prediction of the ultimate success of the Chancellor's financial measures.

SEVEN YEARS' RESIDENCE IN THE GREAT DESERTS OF NORTH AMERICA.*

MANY of our readers are already familiar with the name of the earnest and laborious missionary, the Abbé Dommenech. His travels in Central America, under the name of "Adventures in Texas and Mexico," were welcomed by the public with a pleasure almost equal to that with which Livingstone's "Travels" were received. His tone in the former work, as well as in the larger and more detailed volumes before us, shows profound conviction, and displays the earnestness and the sufferings of a poor, devoted, and apostolic missionary. In reading such narratives, as well as those of the first French missionaries, who penetrated to the northern parts of Central America and the head of the Mississippi, we need not feel surprise that Romanism should make progress. The Spaniards and Portuguese, in their conduct towards the natives of North and South America, merely tried to get as much out of

the countries as they could, corrupted the morals of the natives, and imposed religion upon them through the sword and terrors of the Inquisition. Real religion, on the other hand, carried the power of France into the heart of the American continent. We know few more pleasing narratives than those which detail the labours of the first French missionaries, whose course has been traced by Bancroft, in his "History of the United States," down the deep basin of the Mississippi, and where, under the guidance of Marquette Joliet and other distinguished names, "France and Christianity stood together, and the cedar cross which marked the spread of religion had engraved upon it the lilies of the Bourbons—the symbol of their power."

To such men the Abbé Dommenech is a not unworthy successor. Recommending to those who have not yet perused it the study of his first work, we now proceed to give a notice of the present volumes on the great deserts of North America, necessarily inadequate, considering the magnitude of the subject and the multitude of the details. The weight of the work is relieved by the liveliness of the style, and by numerous illustrations. In the preface the Abbé tells us that the flattering manner in which his first work was welcomed, has induced him to continue the publication of his ethnographical studies of savage tribes, of whom he enumerates about six hundred. These he declares to be as varied in their physical appearance as they are similar in their civil and religious organisation. As an orthodox believer, he is naturally anxious to link the history of America with the Biblical account. Many sceptical writers—Voltaire, for instance—have denied that the Indians belong to the one great human family. Arguments against the unity of the human race have been advanced by those who look at merely isolated facts, to erect, as our author says, an edifice of sand, which the slightest touch of a competent hand would crumble instantly. Undoubtedly there are great difficulties attending all ethnographical inquiries into the races of the inhabitants of America, which cannot easily be solved. The origin of the aborigines is still hid in gloom. Our author, perhaps, dogmatizes too much as to his particular view, that many emigrations took place, perhaps from Scythia, from Phœnicia, and elsewhere; and he seems to give credit to tales of early voyages from Ireland, from Iceland, and even from Wales, such as are alluded to by Southey, in his fanciful poem of "Madoc." Others have characterised this idea as an "insidious attempt against the honour of America and the reputation of Columbus." Bancroft has discussed the question with research and impartiality. We rather agree with him, that "this *pons asinorum*, which has called forth a great deal of sense and nonsense on both sides of the water," is far from a solution, and will "continue to be disputed so long as a new relic or unknown hieroglyphic turns up to irritate the nerves of the antiquary."

The first and second parts of our author's work discuss these vexed problems under the heads "Ancient Emigrations" and "American Origins." Do the Indians come from Phœnicia, Africa, Asia, or are they Hutschthons? Did the mythical Votan, who said he was a serpent, and bore the name of *Chicim*, which some choose to connect with the ancient Hivites, ever exist? The Abbé thinks that such difficulties will be removed by the further progress of the light of science, and does not wish to reject these tales as wholly fabulous. He thinks they may cast some light on the existence especially of such empires in Mexico as those of

the Zoltecs and the Aztecs, whom the Spaniards found on their arrival there. As we advance towards the dawn of modern times, the veil which shrouds these mysteries becomes more transparent. The Periplus of Hanno, the allusions in Homer, Plato, Horace, and others, are cited to show that the existence of America was known before Columbus. We all remember Seneca's prophecy, which the Abbé does not give in the original—

"Venient annis secula seris,
Quibus oceanus vincula rerum
Laxet et ingens pateat tellus
Tethysque novos detegat orbis,
Neque sit terrarum ultima Thule."

We think such indications are too indecisive for any establishment of facts. Bancroft and others have shown that the view of connection with the Jews, founded on a similarity of religious ceremonies and mythological tales, or with the Tartars, such as Humboldt infers, because the names of Mexican months agree with the signs of the zodiac in Thibet or Tartary, or supposed affinities of language, cannot rest on any historical basis. Our author, however, exhibits great research in stating all these theories, and though evidently influenced a good deal by them, he cannot be blamed for throwing out his views for proof or disproof by the ethnographer or antiquary.

He is more happy and distinct in showing that existing facts do not afford any sure ground of attack upon the Mosaic account of the creation. We cannot enter here into a discussion of what constitutes a new species; but sufficient details are clearly set forth to show that even differences in colour, in hair, in formation of the skull, &c., do not constitute varieties of genus. "Specific character," says a scientific writer, "proceeds from the life-spring of the species, and is essentially connected with its preservation." The differences even which characterise the Negro, Mongol, and Caucasian types, as they are called, are in nowise similar to zoological characteristics, but belong to what are termed, as regards animals, acquired differences. Hues of all shades are regulated by a deposit of colouring matter beneath the skin. Climate, and especially the damp heat of marshes and low lands, and putrid exhalations, cause the darker hues. The Jews of the same race afford a striking instance of change as regards colour of skin according to the countries they inhabit, while, amid intricate diversity, preserving the same distinctive features. The savage state is calculated to increase the effects of climate, while civilisation modifies them. Hence, to explain the different colours of races in America, there is no need to resort to obscure and intricate theories, contradictory to reason, and unsupported by evidence. Several primitive centres of population need not be assumed. Our author has clearly and successfully in these two first parts, and also in succeeding chapters, brought together the many facts of differences, of all conceivable characters, among the Indian tribes, to show that from them no proof can be drawn that the Bible is full of historical errors, and that there is no need to suppose "a separate creation, a fresh Divine interposition, or other extraordinary theory, to arrive at the origin either of animals or Indians, or to understand their differences, the kingdoms which have disappeared, their antiquity, their civilisation, or the variety of American languages." We may not agree as to the clearness of his views respecting their origin, which we think may long be shrouded in mystery, but our author has set forth some important arguments.

Having in these introductory chapters cleared the way, the Abbé goes on to give, in the third

* *Seven Years' Residence in the Great Deserts of North America.* By the Abbé Em. Dommenech. (London: Longman & Co.)

part, a general description of that vast region which his "much-loved Indians" occupied, or still occupy, but from which they are unhappily gradually disappearing before advancing civilisation, which means here the white man's acquisitive lust. To use their own poetic, though gloomy language, "they are fast travelling to the shades of their fathers, towards the setting sun." A glance at the map of Central America exhibits a vast expanse, almost within the limits of a parallelogram, which might be bounded by lines extending from the 30th to the 50th degree of north latitude, and from longitude 77 degs. to 127 degs. west of Greenwich. But the primitive type of the Indian is now only to be found in the great desert west of the Mississippi, between it and Texas, and the British territories on the north and the Pacific ocean on the west. Even on this space, the three enemies of the aborigines—whisky, small-pox, and the American plantations—make fearful inroads annually. Nearly one-half of the first volume is occupied in descriptions of the natural scenery, rivers, villages, plains, and other topographical details of these deserts. We wish space permitted us to extract some of the poetic descriptions of the beauties of these regions, but we can only hastily refer to a few. Since 1850, the Wichita Indians have had to abandon villages where it was their delight to dwell in an "air pure and sweet as the kiss of a child; the sky ever blue as an oriental sapphire; a gentle breeze embalming the atmosphere with the fragrance of flowers; the cedars and lilacs exhaling sweet perfumes; while the colibri, the blue bird, and the cardinal, flutter from branch to branch; with amaranthus and purple flowers visible beneath the verdant oaks, and light clouds above, which captivate the human soul, while at the same time they plunge it into a deep reverie." Such is an abbreviated sketch of the author's description of one of those charming scenes. At the top of the Red River commence those curious natural ravines called *canons*, which cut up the surface to great depths, rendering travelling difficult by necessitating continual circuits. Further to the west, is Santa Fé, the capital of New Mexico, which is compared to Italian villas nestled on the slopes of the Apennines, where no young person could exist without dancing three hundred and sixty-five fandangos in the year. West and north, at a great distance, the author comes upon the Great Salt Lake, from which the Mormon settlements extend to the Gulf of California, watered chiefly by the River Colorado. We cannot stop to notice the historical and descriptive details of the gold regions, the bay of San Francisco, and the valuable sands of the Sacramento. Towards the north extend what is called the Great Basin, the forest of Oregon, and valley of the Columbia. The *dalles* of that river, with their huge basaltic walls, are much frequented by tribes who annually migrate there to fish for salmon, and for the peculiar fish called *utlecan*, which gives not only food but light, since its tail burns, when dried, like a candle. Passing through the northern part of the Mormon settlements, our author's steps were bounded by the Rocky Mountains, held by the Indians in peculiar veneration as the Bridge of the World, the land of the shades, where after death they expect to join the departed brave and good, dwelling amid luxuriant verdure, under beautiful tents. To complete his journey, the author had still to traverse an enormous extent between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi, a large part being the valley of the Nebraska and Missouri. This comprised the district of Iowa, and that of which St. Louis is

the capital. One of the most interesting new states of the American Union, though least known, is Minnesota, a term meaning "white water." At the source of the Mississippi, visited by the Abbé, is the cascade of Minn I-ha-ha, the noise of its waters resembling peals of laughter.

Such is a general account of the vast Indian territory visited by our traveller. Lovers of the beautiful may refer to the description of evenings in the desert, of the habitations of the prairie dog, of the Eden in the valley of the river Canadian, of the forests of Oregon, of the plains where the *cercus giganteus*, a kind of cactus, raises aloft its fluted and vertebrated columns, and of the great Salt Lake, where, strangely enough, considering the tenets of the neighbouring people, the scenery is said to resemble the desolate shores of the Dead Sea. Had space allowed, we might have well extracted all these descriptions. On reading them, we do not wonder at the feeling of the missionary which leads him to live again in thought the active, useful, and sublime life he spent there, and his regret on being recalled to the business of the civilised world.

In part IV. we are introduced to the Indian antiquities, which the Abbé thinks show that originally the Indians were a highly-civilised people who have unhappily degenerated. Such is not the general opinion of authors who have thoroughly investigated the subject, and American writers, like Bancroft and Prescott, whom on such matters we should feel disposed to think impartial. Dommenech argues that famine may give a terrible energy to the brutal part of our nature, just as a shipwreck might half uncivilise Europeans, and that volumes might be filled in describing monuments which show art and cultivated thought of unknown, though ancient, dates. Unfortunately, however, many of his data are contested. The tumuli on which he builds largely are said only to show the hand of man so far as they have been hollowed out to serve as sepulchres. Possibly natural changes may have caused the structures which being in regular conical shape seems to him to indicate artificial workmanship. Ancient fortifications exist, and even the limits of circuses, like those where Greek and Roman games were celebrated. The account of the new Mexican Pueblos, supposed remains of the Aztecs, will be read with interest. Ancient salt-mines and gardens are considered works of a people who had passed from a savage and nomadic state to that of agriculturalists. The Abbé modestly gives a view—contrary to Robertson, Humboldt, and other authorities—that at one time there existed a numerous and civilised people, who passed away from the earth unperceived, and in its decline was fused with the actual race of Red Indians.

Other objects interesting to the archaeologist, but either more disputed or thought less clear proof of civilisation, are hieroglyphic inscriptions, such as those on the Dighton rock, which some have fancied to show Phœnician origin. The principal ideography of the Indians appears in the *totems* or heraldic signs, as figures of birds, beasts, &c., which distinguish the different chiefs and tribes, and which are more fully described in the chapters detailing their dress and customs. The author gives the statistics and cause of the decrease of the Indian population. Careful accounts have been drawn up by order of the United States' Government, and the works of Mr. Schoolcraft are alluded to, but Dommenech thinks his numbers too small, and adopts the medium between them and the statistics of the *Société De propaganda Fide*. He calculates the existing Indians at about 2,000,000. It is clear that there were

14,000,000 or 16,000,000 two centuries ago; but now civilisation has taken away two-thirds of their territory. The decrease has been caused by iron weapons, fire, brandy, small-pox, and cholera. The American Government, though it prohibited alcoholic liquors being introduced amongst them, could not stop the official agents, who are too apt to take the part of the merchants, and treat the Indians "as not men in the eyes of the law." Forced emigration, which is detailed in the sequel, is the chief cause. The author concludes this part with the names of nearly six hundred tribes.

Of these we have particular descriptions of between fifty and sixty, which bear evidence of personal inspection. Mr. Catlin, from whose details the Abbé does not materially deviate, visited in eight years forty-eight tribes, and the 310 portraits which adorn his pages will render the reader of these volumes more ready to picture in his mind the accounts here given. We may give the names of those which will be most generally recognised. These are, we think, the Apaches, the Cherokees, the Chippewas, the Comanches, the Creeks, the Toways, the Delawares, the Iroquois, the Ojibbeways, and the Blackfeet.

The Cherokees were the most civilised and the greatest sufferers out of all the Indian tribes. Formerly they possessed territories in Georgia and elsewhere, to the east of the Mississippi; and the history of their forced emigration to Arkansas, carried out by General Jackson, is, according to the author, a black chapter in the transactions of the States' Government. The Ojibbeways, near Lake Superior, show the greatest intelligence in the improvement of their pictography. The Comanches bear a striking resemblance, it is said, to the Arabs. The Crows are said to be the most aristocratic and handsome; their face has the shape of a half-moon. It is remarkable that the Mandan tribe are called *Peuple de Faisans*, which the author connects with the three pheasants said to have been borne on the arms of Madoc, Prince of Wales. The legends of the Natchez in the territory of Louisiana, connect them with the history of Montezuma, and the famous Children of the Sun. They have the custom of flattening by strong pressure the heads of their children. The Ojibbeways reckon that it took them eight centuries to move from the Atlantic to the Mississippi. They use sacred fire kindled by rubbing a pointed piece of wood, turning in a pivot, in their national and religious ceremonies. Of all the Indians, the Root-diggers or Shoshonees are, most miserable. Some tribes are all Albinos.

Having thus described the territory and peculiar tribes, the author goes on in the remaining divisions to speak of their general character, their languages, their festivals and industry, their customs and religions. Though in these chapters there is less which will appear novel to most readers, the author is not like many, who have written of the Indians without personal acquaintance with their peculiar customs and character. The chapters on Indian languages show great research, and though few may be disposed to study them minutely, there are some characteristics interesting to all. Each of their many dialects has a regular organisation. Most of the tribes have no alphabets, but an hieroglyphical pictography; many of their words are derived from the sound, as the name of a horse from the noise of its trotting. Their vocabulary is poor: hence they have recourse to long polysyllabic compounds to express even common ideas. The Abbé might have recorded what is said of the Anglican missionary Mr. Eliot, that to express kneeling in

Indian language, he had to use a word a line in length and of eleven syllables. Language is, as might be expected among these children of nature, essentially figurative. They are narrators by taste, and orators by nature. Their chants, of which the Abbé gives us specimens, are sweet and poetic, though simple and monotonous. After furnishing us with several legends, fables, and pieces of poetry, as well as a few bars of Mexican melody, whereby we may judge of this literature of the desert, twenty or thirty pages are filled with vocabularies, which, we doubt not, will afford some interest to the learned philologist, though our readers will thank us for not here entering on the subject.

Great differences have prevailed respecting the Indian character. Those who merely formed their notions from American writers, or antiquated ideas from accounts of our intercourse with them last century, are disposed to enlarge on their vices of cruelty, subtlety and fierceness, without giving them any credit for honesty and simplicity. Our author deals with them more fairly. He tells us that, in their primitive state, they are modest, discreet, inoffensive, and moral; polygamy, where it prevails, is simply a mark of competence among the chiefs. He does not deny the truth of many acts of cruelty, and with candour relates a story of a chief, who acquired the use of poison from the whites, to remove his personal enemies in his tribe. It may be noted, however, that Catlin denies the truth of this story, at least to a great extent. No doubt, among them is a medley of uncertain morals, but many traits of humanity are to be found. Subtlety, of course, is essential to the nature of a people accustomed to depend on outwitting the instinct of wild beasts, or escaping the ferocity of hostile warriors; what else they have learnt, is owing to their debasing intercourse with the whites, whose vices they have acquired, unhappily without gaining either their virtues or civilisation.

In describing their festivals and industry, many things remind us of other ancient nations. Their festivals, such as that of the Green Turkey Corn, recall the Jewish ceremonies; in their athletic exercises, and some of their dances, they resemble the ancient Greeks. Dancing is their best and dearest pastime, entering into all their religious and public ceremonies. Strangers fancy at such times that maniacs are exercising their gambols; but their oddities always correspond with the incidents of the moment. In dances youths are taught to hunt the buffalo, and to seize the artificial wigs carried by some of the dancers, to learn how to scalp their enemies. Beggars sue for charity in dances: the Discovery dance exhibits the phases of a grand hunt or battle, and the tricks used to avoid surprise. Hunting is not only their chief amusement, but is also to be considered in its productive and industrial point of view. The fur and skin traders have stimulated the Indians to thin the numbers of those animals on which so much of their livelihood depends. Tribes are directed in those periodical migrations—during which they are exposed to so much calamity by toil, famine, and hostile encounters—to the places where fish or game is most abundant. The great straits of the Columbia, in the far west, are most productive of salmon and other fish. Furs, maple sugar, the wampum belts, which are almost like strings of coins, bored through the middle and fastened like a necklace, are their chief articles of commerce. Agriculture is in its infancy, and held in little repute amongst them, steady, rural labour being incompatible with their wild,

restless habits. Their weapons of war, dress, and ornaments, are pretty well known; space does not allow us even to allude to them particularly, which is the less necessary as a number of plates illustrate the subject much more readily.

Excepting in such amusements as we have noted, the red skins, in a state of peace, spend their time doing nothing. "On the roofs of their houses, or on the flowery banks of lake or river, they smoke tranquilly, watching the fantastic clouds, listening to the strange melodies of the wind among the leaves of virgin forests, chatting about the news of the day, or hearing the histories and legends of the old chroniclers of the colony." Many children die in infancy; but their parents are kind, and scarcely ever inflict corporal punishment. Their names express many ideas, such as "The little thunder," "The bird that flies." It may be easily conceived that their education is little more than hunting, shooting, and war. Some tribes, beginning to follow American civilisation, will send their children to Jesuit schools; but generally they seem to think the white man's instruction will be of little service to them. Marriages are formed by purchase, and sometimes by servitude, when a lover, during a certain period, gives to his bride's father all that he earns by working or hunting in lieu of a portion. Their morality reminds us of the purity described by Tacitus as the honour of the ancient German tribes. Indians eat only when hungry, and the culinary art is necessarily limited. Next to game and fish, maize is their chief support. They also make cakes from a certain kind of moss that grows on trees. They sometimes make slaves of prisoners taken in war; but oftener sacrifice them, not out of cruelty, but from religious feelings in honour of deities. The priests and physicians preside at their public meetings. The chiefs are of only nominal power; unless their moral qualities and bravery support the dignity of their position, they have no distinctive pre-eminence. Their organisation in some respects resembles that of the ancient Scythians, as in the community of land, division into tribes, government by elective chiefs, custom of living in tents, and adoration of the sun, as the symbol of the Great Spirit. The Franks and Anglo-Saxons are said to have scalped towards the year 879; the *decalvare* of the ancient Germans seems to have been this practice. We generally associate this notion with almost fiendish cruelty; but the Indians scarcely ever scalp any except a dead enemy. Some of the tribes burn their dead, and place the bones in small temples, or urns called *ossuaries*; but burying is now more common.

What more is needed to illustrate their character may be comprised under the head of religion, the concluding division of the author's subject. Their religious feelings are carried to extraordinary superstition and fanaticism, mingling with all they see, and hear, and do. Several traditions exist amongst them, which the Abbé is inclined to treat as proving traditions of the Virgin Mary. They have undoubtedly traditions of the creation, the deluge, and even of an old Sachem with twelve sons, the youngest wearing a garment of skins which preserved him from the Evil Spirit. They have also, like the Jews, some forbidden meats and unusual ceremonies. All the savages of the New World believe in a Supreme Being, whom they adore as the Great or Good Spirit; and though they recognise an antagonist or evil one, yet their system is not that of dualism, as the evil one is subordinate. Their religion is not pure idolatry or Pantheism,

though their natural feelings, in their vivid imagination, people the whole world of nature with genii, who are revered, but in an inferior way, while the thunder and the wind represent the voice of—

"The Great Spirit, who in clouds
And storms, by mountain caves, or by the falls
Of waters in the woodland solitude,
Doth make His being felt!"

The allegorical traditions as to the introduction of arts, medicine, and religious mysteries, are extravagant. Like the Hindoos, from religious feelings they often submit to tortures, such as are described in the East of men hung up and whirled round with iron hooks in their flesh, often with the view of becoming the medicine-men of the tribe. *Medicine* is a term applied to all mystery, such as physic, art, or religion. The medicine-man is at once priest and instructor. He interprets charms and auguries. We commend to the notice of the reader the figure illustrative of the dress of this functionary, more like a wild beast than a human being. The Indians term a steam-boat *medicine canoe with eyes*. The youths at a certain age, with some forms like those of the religious knights in chivalry, acquire a medicine bag, containing certain harmless charms, which they carry with them through life as an amulet. Like most ancient nations when water was scarce, they venerate springs and rivers; but this cannot by any means be cited as inferring a Jewish or Phœnician origin. Their ideas of a future state among the Islands of the Blessed, resemble that shadowy belief which became clearer and clearer among the Greeks of old as the times of Christianity approached. The Bishop of St. David's, in his philosophic history of Greece, compares the Indian notion to early Greek ideas of Achilles pursuing shadowy enemies in the Elysian fields. In the red skins' paradise—

"By midnight moons, o'er moistening dew,
In vestments for the chase arrayed,
The hunter still the deer pursues:
The hunter and the deer a shade."

No doubt many of our readers will ask with interest, as the Abbé discusses in his concluding remarks, "How are Christianity and civilisation to be brought home to these children of the desert? We may not agree with him that the Roman Catholic religion is best adapted for them; any idea as to this, when borne out by facts, may be accounted for by the character of the French being more accommodating than that of other foreigners to strangers, as exemplified in a ludicrous manner by an anecdote of M. de Chateaubriand, of a Frenchman sympathising with all his heart with a flute-player teaching *Messieurs les Sauvages* to dance. The Abbé is right in saying that Anglican missionaries have sometimes erred in instituting penal codes to civilise them and form their morals; their education requires particular care, for, being cheerful, witty, and acute, they may receive intelligent instruction.

Let us hope that ere long the savages will know their white brothers as something better than cunning civilisers, who seize their lands, beset, and annihilate them. Pages might be written to prove the horrors of forced emigration, against which their nature revolts, without that recuperative energy which, in an Irishman or Scottish Highlander, is transferred from the Old World to Canada or Australia. Where the white man now comes, farewell mirth, play, and joy, and the banished race cannot be fitted to the industry of modern civilisation. He is therefore of a dying race. Nature has evidently intended those vast countries for something more than hunting grounds. Probably the prophecy of Bishop Berkeley may be there exemplified:—

"Westward the course of empire holds its way."

If it be asked where is water to be found in the central prairies necessary to sustain peaceful herds, notices of the author solve the difficulty. He tells us that in many parts traces exist of rivers and springs dried up, owing, perhaps, to the luxuriance of vegetation, for ages useless to man. This may be changed; but Indian nationality will cease, though it may be yet some time before "the last Indian" has killed the last buffalo, and the last victim of civilisation and cupidity has perished.

The Abbé Dommenach has done much to enlist our sympathies with these decaying races, and, in his own words, "to spread over the Indian cabin a sad, vague, and poetic light; to reveal to the thinking man, the philosopher, and the Christian an existence worthy of sympathy, a misfortune worthy of compassion, and a death worthy of regret." Few works are to be found more suggestive in their views, more exhaustive of the subject handled, showing more research, candour, and earnestness of purpose. The volumes before us will rank with those of Livingstone, Tennent, and with other writers of foremost merit.

VICISSITUDES OF FAMILIES.*

THE name of Sir Bernard Burke, the title of his work, and the recollection of the "series" which appeared a short time since, will combine to attract many readers to the volume before us. To some extent their expectations will be satisfied, and they will doubtless derive considerable gratification from the varied records of changeable fortunes here presented. They will find some very curious information on a very wide range of genealogical topics. But they will remark with regret many superfluities and many omissions; they will look with little favour on a style which is alternately dry without dignity, and trifling without ease; they will notice disquisitions which a school-boy might have written, and blunders for which a schoolboy would be whipped.

In a work of this description, we need hardly say that precise and laborious accuracy is everything: let us at the outset show by a couple of examples how far Sir Bernard Burke fulfils this imperative condition. In a chapter entitled "the Bodice-maker of Bristol" we have the well-known story of that Sir John Duddleston who rose to wealth and distinction by inviting Prince George of Denmark to dine with him when the other merchants were too awe-struck to do so. According to Sir Bernard Burke, Duddleston was knighted by Queen Anne, amassed a fortune, and then was raised to a baronetcy "in 1691-2," and was utterly ruined in the great storm of 1704. We suppose after this that the Ulster King of Arms will be surprised to learn that Queen Anne did not come to the throne till 1702. Supposing we regard the first date as a misprint, and imagine that she knighted Duddleston immediately on her accession, we are still in the midst of incongruities: two years—for the date of the great storm is accurate enough—will hardly suffice for the baronetcy, the accumulation of the fortune, and its loss. The only clue we can venture to suggest is that after all Duddleston may have been knighted in 1691-2 by Mary at the request of Anne—the great rupture between them not occurring till 1692—and that Sir Bernard may have been led into his error by the expression "the Queen," forgetting that Mary as well as Anne was Queen Regnant, and perfectly competent to confer knighthood.

Again: there are very few abridgments of English history from which Sir Bernard Burke

might not learn that it was Henry VII. who fined De Vere, Earl of Oxford, for welcoming him with too large a retinue—an act which the volume before us attributes to Henry VIII.; and as the mistake occurs more than once, the possibility of a misprint is again elaborately barred.

It may seem invidious to dwell on such blemishes, but the volume from its nature and subject invites criticism, and we cannot but observe that we follow an author who thus flounders among the elementary facts of English history, with very little confidence through those more recondite points of genealogy or family narrative, where not one reader in a hundred can check his accuracy.

With all its faults, however, there is a good deal of amusement in this volume. There are very few, we imagine, who do not hear with interest of

*"The deeds of great, old houses,
And fights fought long ago."*

It is a better feeling than that of mere toadyism that attracts the attention of so many to the records of the aristocracy. If the Peerage is the Englishman's Bible, it is because it is in no small degree the Englishman's history of his own country. Now the traces of important periods are perceptible no less in the records of those they depress, than of those they exalt—of the families who sink into penury or obscurity, than of those who emerge into prominence and distinction. The great dynastic struggles of York and Lancaster, with their alternate proscriptions, began the introduction of vicissitudes *en masse*. The settled policy and the unchecked outbursts of the Tudor sovereigns involved another series of changes. Then in the great rebellion many of the proudest estates were dissipated, and the revolution caused the expatriation of some of the best blood of the land. In the last, and in some part of the present, century the internecine contests of great families in county elections have scattered many a fine estate. Where these general causes have not operated, individual causes have been at work, and the tale of family changes is, and ever must be, one of the strangest and most touching.

We will take some instances from English records. Many of our readers may, perhaps, have seen the fine old mansion at Charlton—Charlton near Woolwich, not its namesake near Dover—now the seat of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson. This was built originally for Henry Prince of Wales, the son of James I., and on his decease granted away to Sir John Conyers. The family of Conyers was even then an ancient one. They held many estates besides Charlton—one of them, in Durham, by the tenure of presenting a falchion to the bishop in commemoration of the slaying of a dragon by a Conyers in Saxon times. The last of that famous line, Sir Thomas Conyers, was some fifty years ago an inmate of the workhouse of Chester-le-Street, from which a subscription rescued him only for a few days of life. His three daughters married labouring men, and the name is now completely extinct.

Equally famous in its elevation, and more notorious in its decline, is the family of Mytton of Halston, one of the foremost even among the grand old lines of Shropshire. Reginald de Mytton represented Shrewsbury in a parliament of Edward III., and Thomas Mytton was the captor of that Buckingham—one of the most luckless possessors of the luckless title—who was the instrument of Richard III. only to be his victim. Strengthened by many important alliances, especially one with an

heir of De Burgh, dowered with 32,000 acres in the lordship of Dinas Mowddwy, the Myttons maintained an unimpaired ascendancy through various political convulsions. One of them cast in his lot with the Parliamentarians, but sustained no consequent harm either from Oliver, whom he opposed, or from the Stuarts. At last, within the memory of many now living, the estate devolved on the too-celebrated John Mytton. A thousand almost maniacal freaks dissipated the fine property, and when a plan of retrenchment was put before its owner, he declared that life on £600 a year was not worth having. Among the devastations which this prodigal perpetrated, was the cutting down of an oak which contained ten tons of timber! At thirty-eight he died in the King's Bench, a broken and a beggared man.

The family of Elwes is one of respectable antiquity, and has gained no little celebrity from the two famous misers, uncle and nephew, who succeeded each other in its headship. Take the following illustration of the penuriousness of the latter:—

"The extent of his property in houses was so great that it naturally followed that all his houses would not be let at the same time. Some, as a matter of course, would remain unoccupied; and hence it was his custom, whenever he came to London, to take up his abode in the first one he found vacant. In this manner he travelled from street to street; for when any tenant wanted the particular house in which he was at the time, he made no hesitation in yielding it to the applicant, and betaking himself to some other. This was no great difficulty for a man who so little encumbered himself with furniture. A couple of beds, the like number of chairs, a table, and an old woman, comprised the whole of his household appointments. None of these, except the old woman, gave him any trouble, and she was afflicted with a lameness that made it no easy matter to get her into motion as quickly as he wished. Moreover, she had a singular aptitude for catching colds, and no wonder, considering what she was exposed to; for sometimes she was in a small house in the Haymarket, then in a great mansion in Portland Place; sometimes in a little room with a coal fire, at others in apartments of frigid dimensions, with oiled papers in the windows for glass, and with nothing to warm her save a few chips that happened to be left by the carpenters.

"The scene which terminated the life of this poor drudge is not among the least characteristic anecdotes recorded of Mr. Elwes. Nor, strange as it seems, can its truth be doubted, since it comes to us upon the authority of Colonel Timms, a favourite nephew of the miser's, and one more inclined to soften than to exaggerate his uncle's defects.

"Mr. Elwes had come to town in his usual way, and taken up his abode in one of his empty houses. The Colonel, who wished to see him, was by some accident informed that the old man was in London, though of his actual whereabouts he could get no tidings. In this dilemma he inquired for him at every place where he was most likely to be heard of,—at Hoare's the banker, at the Mount Coffee-house, and at others of his usual haunts, but all to no purpose. At length, a person whom he met accidentally, recollected seeing the miser go into an uninhabited house in Great Marlborough Street. Thither accordingly the Colonel repaired, and, to follow up the clue thus obtained, got hold of a chairman. But no intelligence could he gain of a gentleman called Mr. Elwes. A pot-boy, however, remembered that he had seen a poor old fellow open the door of a stable and lock it after him; and upon being further questioned, his description of the stranger perfectly agreed with the usual appearance of Mr. Elwes; and when the Colonel, after repeated knocking, could obtain no answer, he sent for a blacksmith, and ordered him to pick the lock. This being easily accomplished, they entered the house together, and found all in the lower part dark and silent. On ascending the staircase, however, they heard the indistinct moanings of some one apparently in great pain. Following the sound, they

*A Second Series of Vicissitudes of Families. By Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms. (Longmans, 1860.)

came to a room, where, upon an old pallet bed, stretched out the figure of the miser, who, to all seeming, was well nigh at the last gasp; but, upon some cordials being administered by an apothecary hastily called in, he recovered enough to say, "that he believed he had been ill for two or three days, and that there was an old woman in the house, who had herself been ill, but that he supposed she had got well and taken herself off."

"At this intimation they repaired to the garrets, where they found the old woman, the companion of all his movements, associate of all his journeys, stretched out lifeless on the floor, with no better couch than a mere rug."

Yet here, by a strange compensating principle which may in such cases be not unfrequently observed, a thriftless successor dissipated the hardly-saved thousands, and the present inheritor of a baronetcy (which he has never assumed), having been waiter at an hotel, has risen to be postmaster in a small provincial town.

The name of De Vere is a very spell to conjure up historic memories; but Sir Bernard Burke's chapter on the subject fails altogether to satisfy us. It seems strange to us that any one could write on such a theme without making any mention of their famous cognizance of the star, which furnished to Milton his epithet "starry Vere," and which, through being mistaken by the Lancastrians for the sun—the badge of the house of York—in part influenced the issue of the decisive day of Barnet. One inaccuracy of Sir Bernard's in this article we have already noticed. We may further mention that he speaks in it of "the death of the last Duke of Lancaster in 1779;" though the last Duke of Lancaster died in 1809.

Scotland, with its troubled history, has "witnessed many vicissitudes of families." Few of its noble houses can boast a higher lineage than the Leslies, Earls of Rothes, now represented by a youthful countess—whose grandmother, also heiress of the line, and consequently peeress in her own right, reversed the story of the Lord of Burleigh, by wedding a youthful gardener. A more immediate interest attaches to the name of Livingstone. Derived from a Hungarian progenitor, named Levingers, who settled in West Lothian in the eleventh century, the Livingstones could at one time boast of three earldoms, two viscounties, and some half-dozen baronies. The most famous of all the line was that Alexander Livingstone, the regent of Scotland, who so treacherously beheaded the young Earl Douglas after a banquet at Edinburgh Castle, in 1440. In later times—for the Jacobite insurrections made terrible havoc among their titles—their history has been romantic rather than historical. Here is a curious story touching their estate of Westquarter:—

"Indeed, the history of the recovery of Westquarter is a romance in itself, and in spite of its apparent improbability, is generally believed to be true. The tale runs thus:—Sir Alexander Livingstone, after the death of his uncle, by which event the succession opened to him, deemed it necessary to visit Edinburgh for the due arrangement of his affairs. He set out accordingly, by post, from London, and, on his way, stopped at the inn at Belford, a small town betwixt Alnwick and Berwick, on a stormy Christmas afternoon. So tempestuous indeed was the weather, that the landlady besought Sir Alexander to proceed no further that evening. She explained to him that the next stage was a long one, that night was approaching, and the roads bad and billy; that she had only tired horses in her stables, and that, besides, it was the custom of the house to entertain all the postillions, hostlers, and other servants at a Christmas supper. Thus urged, Sir Alexander consented to remain, only stipulating for some books and newspapers to pass the evening with. Unfortunately, the library of mine host of Belford was not extensive; the lady brought the Bible, the Pilgrim's Progress, and the Seven

Champions of Christendom; and those not meeting with Sir Alexander's approval, he was informed that they exhausted the literature of the household, but that there were some curious old papers in a closet adjoining the sitting-room into which he had been ushered. In default of occupation more attractive, Sir Alexander began an examination of the closet, which, to his astonishment, he found to contain an ample store of law papers, legal processes, and other similar documents, all of them having reference to Scotch lawsuits. His curiosity was excited, and, his eye having caught the names of Livingstone and Westquarter, he continued his researches, and at last lighted on the title-deeds of the estate of Westquarter, which appeared to have been produced as evidence to instruct some statement of fact in a litigated case. On applying to the landlady, she cleared up the mystery, by informing him that she was an Edinburgh woman—the daughter of a Scotch solicitor,—that she had married below her own condition in life, and that she had removed, with her husband, to Belford, to which place, at her father's death, she had brought many of his old papers, which as lumber had been thrown into the closet where Sir Alexander had discovered them. Many others, she told him, had been destroyed, and, being supposed to be of no value, had been employed in singeing fowls, for pasting up crevices and cupboards, and for other household purposes. To the Westquarter documents Sir Alexander was made heartily welcome; his Belford Christmas night had indeed been for him a most fortunate occurrence, and he started for Edinburgh next morning, carrying with him the very title-deeds with which he was enabled to vindicate his right to the estate, and to oust Lord Napier from it."

A remarkable litigation is now pending for the possession of another estate of this family, and the succession to their ancient baronetcy. Should the claimant, who styles himself Sir Alexander Livingstone, succeed in making good his pretensions—and it is his legitimacy, not his paternity, which is questioned—the son of a common sailor, who died in great penury in Rotherhithe—whose right, had he now been living, must have been undisputed—will be declared heir of an exceedingly old baronetcy, and the representative of two attainted earldoms. We suppose, though Sir Bernard Burke does not mention it, that from this old historic race descends the great African discoverer, whose fortune it may be to make an ancient name as famous on the banks of the Shire and the Zambesi, as ever it was on those of the Teviot and the Tay.

Another old Scotch family were the Laws of Lauriston, one of whom was the celebrated originator of the Mississippi scheme. To him Sir Bernard Burke seems to think rather hard measure has been dealt out, and certainly several instances of great liberality on Law's part are here adduced. But we should attach more weight to Sir Bernard's opinion if we did not find him in the same chapter calling the Duke of Orleans "a kind and not unworthy prince:" an amnesty which includes the Regent Orleans must be a very great one indeed.

Quo fessum rapitis, Irish families of O'Donnell, MacCarthy, O'Melaghlin, and Desmond? Concerning all these much interesting information may be found in the volume before us. Another article, to which we could do no justice by extracts, gives a sketch of the singular career of the late Baron Ward, who rose by his talents from being stable-boy to the office of prime minister of Parma, and who, in memory of his English origin, bore two bulls as his supporters to his coat-of-arms.

Many as are the vicissitudes of families, there are still not a few houses which have escaped them. An interesting companion volume to this might be written, setting forth the permanence and the prominence of some of our historic titles. Derby and Salisbury, in the late ministry; Somerset and Newcastle—

if we trace the latter through the bravery of Clinton, dating from the twelfth century—in the present, will supply instances which go far to refute hackneyed sarcasms against an hereditary peerage. But whether as regards change or stability, the study of family history deserves the utmost attention; and with all his imperfections, we are grateful to Sir Bernard Burke for setting so much of it before us.

TWO MONTHS IN THE HIGHLANDS, ORCADIA, AND SKYE.*

THE question, "Where shall we spend our holiday?" is an interesting one to all, and to none more than to the members of that hard-worked profession to which Mr. Weld belongs. The season is now at hand when the *forum litibus orbis*, hailed by Horace as, matter of congratulation to all peaceful citizens, will disperse its frequenters to every point of the compass; and many an active-minded counsel will betake himself to the pen, and record his travelling experience for the benefit of the multitude. Now it is not every lawyer who can write a readable book. We are not sure that Serjeant Talfourd penned one which interests so many readers as the various volumes of Mr. Weld succeed in doing. In previous seasons Mr. Weld has wandered over and described "The Pyrenees," "The United States and Canada," and "Ireland." Last year his wandering footsteps were directed, by an invitation from a hospitable Scottish laird, to a part of Great Britain where, though not much information or statistics on political economy could be gathered, a vigorous intellect like Mr. Weld's could not fail to expatiate in the field of antiquities and geology opened up in a comparatively remote corner. On his way to shooting and fishing quarters in Caithness-shire, the author falls in with the great herring fleet, which he picturesquely and minutely describes in the only part of the book in which we began to be afraid we were to be bored with statistics. The herring and the salmon are the two tribes which the Legislature almost every year inquires into, and the fishery of which is so difficult to be regulated satisfactorily. The migrations and habits of both are mysterious, as well to the naturalist as to the Parliamentary committee-man. Mr. Weld pronounces modestly his opinion—which we think admits of almost certain proof—"that the great mass of this valuable fish live in the depths of the ocean, annually approach our shores at spawning time, and return to their home when that operation is over." At Wick, the great northern seat of the herring fishery, Mr. Weld notes evidence of the sojourn in those parts, up to a comparatively late period of Scottish history, of the Scandinavian sea-kings of Norway. The termination "go" in the names of many harbours and armlets of the sea is an abbreviation of the Scandinavia "gio," a deep inlet. Well known to the sportsman, whether with the rod or with the gun, is the name of Mr. Dunbar, and of the "ghaist-alluring" castle of Brawl, where a modest request of a bishop of old for such an augmentation of stipend as is now daily granted without trouble to a Scottish Presbyterian parson, was stopped in an effectual way by a wicked Earl of Caithness, *his reverence being boiled in oil!* We cannot detail the abundant facilities for sport which both this locality and the neighbouring county of Sutherland afford. Thanks to the wise and good Duke, the inns are the cleanest and cheapest to be met with anywhere, although in space they are very

* *Two Months in the Highlands, Orcadia, and Skye.* By C. R. Weld. (London: Longman & Co.)

unaccommodating. We know no part of the kingdom to which we would recommend an over-worked student, especially a brother of the "gentle craft," to betake himself for a few weeks every season, in preference to these seemingly remote localities. Mr. Weld's cheerfulness, however, seems to have borne him wonderfully up amid the inconveniences of Scottish mists, "which wet Englishmen to the skin;" and we doubt not he was aided in this by his habits of observation, and knowledge of the various "ologies" which render the country interesting to *literati*. There as well as in Skye, "the glacial theory," as it is called—such as we see in Switzerland, Snowdon, and the mountains of Wales—distinctly unfolds itself to the eye of the scientific observer. Hugh Miller, in his valuable work on geology, minutely described the fossil ichthyological treasures of the county, those "medals of creation," the fish "that were baked in stane pies before Adam gied names to the haddock and cod."

Having visited "John o'Groat's House," and the famed Stacks of Duncansby Head—"huge sandstone pinnacles scarred and furrowed into fantastic shapes, like islands of the far-past falling into ruin"—our author ventured across the troubled Pentland, regardless of the breezes "which vex the storm-swept Orcaes." The traveller to these islands should take with him as his guide-book Scott's novel of the "Pirate," and the notes of his journey there in the yacht of the Commissioners of Northern Lights. The inhabitants at this day fancy that certain cliffs present a striking likeness in profile of that great novelist. Very interesting stones, like that of Stonehenge, with Runic inscriptions, are found to interest the antiquary. At Kirkwall, the capital of the Orkneys, the admirer of ecclesiastical architecture meets with that marvel in the land of John Knox—a cathedral in tolerable preservation. A Scottish presbytery has appropriated for its place of meeting the Cathedral of St. Magnus. In 1263, Haco, king of Norway, who struck a gallant though fortunately unsuccessful blow for the possession of all Scotland at the battle of Largs, died in the bishop's palace. A few centuries after, a bad ruler, Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney, fancied he could adopt the despotic rule of the old Vikings, but the law under James VI. was then strong enough to reach him. Sir Walter Scott tells us that he was charged with high treason for ignorance of Latin grammar. He had inscribed on his castle: "Robertus Stuartus, Filius Jacobi Quinti, Rex Scotorum, hoc edificium instruxit." But for his atrocious cruelties, hanging would have been rather a severe penalty for using a nominative, against the rules of concord, in place of a genitive.

What are called "Picts' houses" have given much trouble to antiquaries. The peasantry superstitiously fear to open them. Some of them "consist of two concentric circular walls built of stone and clay, having recesses in the inner walls, supposed to have been used for sleeping purposes." Immense quantities of bones of animals are found in them, and sometimes sculptured stones, not yet thoroughly deciphered by members of the Spalding Club, or by the *savans* of the British Association, who last year personally inspected similar ones in Aberdeenshire.

Another instance of the remains of superstition is noted by Mr. Weld; namely, the custom of the peasantry to burn *need-fires*—for a description of which we must refer the reader to the book—in order to ward off diseases from their cattle. The Druids annually, on the 1st of May, used to raise the sacred fire which still

retains the name of Baal, the Sun-god, in the term "Beltane," or, as Mr. Weld gives it in Gaelic, *La-beal-tin*.

Having traversed the Orkneys, Mr. Weld directed his steps along the romantic western shores of Sutherlandshire. He gives us some very sensible remarks as to the really good policy of the Dukes of Sutherland in converting their principality into a sheep and deer-producing district. Mr. Bright would have the land divided into small parcels to suit the distressed Glasgow weaver; and various philanthropists have lamented that so fine a country as that of Reay, which produced a gallant regiment of 800 men like the Reay Fencibles, should have passed from its own lords, and become part of the sixty square miles of "the Duke," from which arable cultivation is nearly banished. The truth is, that in assisting the people to emigrate, or transferring them to fishing villages, the noble proprietor acted for the best interests of all concerned, and the "Sutherland clearings," which excited sympathy or indignation at the time, are now almost invariably recognised as wise and necessary.

We recommend both the tourist and geologist to peruse, either here or in the too brief diary of Sir Walter Scott, the description of the wonders of the cave of Smor, compared by the author to the perhaps better known Adelsberg caverns in Carniola. It is often the case that travellers overlook the wonders at home to roam in foreign lands. A few years ago, few places of note abroad were visited by a greater number of English travellers than the caves of Staffa and the ruins of Iona.

The only matter in which we think the keen observation of the writer at fault is his failing to appreciate the earnestness and depth of the Scottish religious feeling. No doubt "the men" he describes—of whom an English reader may be surprised to hear a sort of amateur lay preacher so designated—were often prejudiced and fanatical, disposed to consider Prelacy as worse than the sin of witchcraft. They might in language and spirit persecute, condemn all who differed in the slightest point of ceremony or church practice with themselves; but there can be little doubt that they roused a slumbering population, just as Methodism in England put an end to carelessness among Churchmen. The Established Kirk in Scotland would never have lost so entirely its hold of the western Highlanders, but for its own culpable neglect.

Wandering along the shores of Assynt, where a miserable Macleod betrayed for reward the noble Marquis of Montrose to his enemies, Mr. Weld concludes his vacation rambles in the Isle of Skye. Our limits necessarily prevent us from noticing many descriptions of remarkable scenery, which we recommend our readers, who cannot make the tour personally, to enjoy in these pages. Two beautiful engravings faithfully represent the Cuchullin or Coolin hills, and the famous Loch Corriskin. Scott, when he described the huge terraces of black granite, hurled headlong in some night of war, the loose crags that had toppled over while some rocks were left trembling on their precarious base, knew not the cause of such seeming natural disorder. Ice and icebergs were the agents that polished the surfaces of the rocks in the valleys and gorges of the Cuchullins, and left for our view and wonderment the "*roches moutonnées*" and "*blocs perchés*."

We heartily wish Mr. Weld many a pleasant vacation, and trust that his previous successes, as well as the pleasure which the perusal of this book has afforded, will induce him to favour us with future annuals. For

ourselves, we entirely ratify the hope he expresses that the public will judge "his holiday last year profitably spent, abounding with pleasure not unmingled with instruction."

THE BATTLE OF THE STYLES.*

We remember to have heard a clever but eccentric professor at Oxford, who discoursed of all things, like a certain famous lady friend of Dean Donne, from predestination to sewing silk, gravely reduce all the styles of architecture to their primeval germs—the convex of the Byzantine dome, the concave of the projecting bell supports of a Chinese pagoda, the horizontal line that marked the Classic portico, the vertical line of the aspiring Gothic, the inwardly-inclining line of the Egyptian pyramid, the combination of the convex lines set edgewise, which formed the Saracenic horse-shoe, and so forth. The theory is ingenious; and, on the principle *non omnes cupimus omnia*, and that like draws like, we may presume that there is some secret affinity between these several Laes or germs and peculiar minds; for the "Battle of the Styles" bids fair to rival the battle of the frogs or the battle of the books; alas! without their wit. It must, however, be confessed that English eclecticism has made trial of every style known in ages remote or recent; and the proofs of this liberal spirit may be inspected within the limits of a two hours' journey from the metropolis. We can boast of obelisks in profusion; the Pagoda of Kew, the Pavilion of Brighton, the Egyptian Hall of Piccadilly, the dome of the Colosseum, the Saracenic arches and minarets of the Panopticon in Leicester Square, the peristyles of the Custom House, the Post Office, and the British Museum, and the Palladian Cathedral of St. Paul's, and the façade of the banqueting house of Whitehall. As the North American wigwam, the snow hut of the Esquimaux, the tent of the Bedouin, and the kraal of the Caffrarian are not designed to suit European ideas of home comfort, we must discover copies of the in the casemates of our barracks—cooled, ill-ventilated, and oppressive as they are—and in the Rotunda at Woolwich. If any ambitious person is desirous of striking out a new style, the only sources of information or suggestion with which we are acquainted are to be found in the city architecture of Lord Bacon's "Atlantis" or in a "Chateau d'Espagne." For ourselves, we should be quite content to adapt the modern requirements to the splendid models which have been bequeathed to us by our Gothic forefathers.

The advocate of the so-called Classic Style is so Protean in his appearance, and so self-contradictory in his arguments, that it is difficult to recognise the *nemo sic impar sibi* at his new turn, and under his fresh sophism. Sometimes he informs us that the Classic is the only model suited to public buildings or private dwellings. Let us seriously ask this authority, does he specially admire the pepper-box cupola of the National Gallery, flanked by its dwarf salt-cellars, and appearing over the equally dwarf columns which once stood in front of Carlton House? Is the portico of St. Martin-in-the-Fields enhanced by the square alms-box or squat pedestal that stands above the pediment? or is its mongrel steeple a perfect composition? Do the fronts of Morley's Hotel, and the adjoining buildings on the east, or the elevations of the Union Club and the College of Physicians, remind them of the glories of the Acropolis, or the relics of the Forum? Yet these buildings form the hollow square which has been truly described as the finest site in London. Let us look southward; see the superb group of towers and spires which rises above the new Palace of Westminster: what originality in design, what beauty of outline, what a happy

* Shall the New Foreign Office be Gothic or Classic? A Plea for the Former. By Sir Francis G. Scott, Bart. (London: Bell and Daldy.) Classic or Pseudo-gothic (Bell and Daldy.)

variety of combination, does it present! Where in Christendom is the Classic steeple that can be compared with the *grandeur* of the Victoria Tower? Where are we to find the front, Palladian or Classic, that can equal, much less surpass, the northern transept of Westminster? We have already alluded to the four principal buildings of the metropolis—the Custom House, the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, and the British Museum—and we discover only—bread and bread to it—the one little idea three times reproduced; porticoes in them exclude the sunshine, which we complain that we seldom enjoy, and in the museum positively darken and contract the galleries in the south front, which require all the light which can be thrown upon their invaluable collections. In St. Paul's, Sir Christopher Wren has actually erected a sham, a solid screen, scooped out into ugly niches, which contain figures in front of the clerestory windows. The effect of this screen is to render the dark and dingy aisles of the metropolitan cathedral gloomy without solemnity, and obscure without impressiveness, in strange contrast with its showy exterior. Yet, with an amazing effrontery, the advocates of the Classic style deliberately asserted that the new Gothic buildings erected by Mr. Gilbert Scott at the west end of Westminster Abbey were dark and inconvenient, until they received such a terrible lesson and contradiction by the "Broad Phylactery" of the "Times," that they will not care lightly to repeat the slander. All the faults, on acoustic grounds, charged on the House of Commons by hon. members are simply referable to the fact that Sir Charles Barry was compelled to lower his roof and erect galleries round the chamber; and galleries, as we have at length discovered to our cost in churches, are utterly destructive to the transmission of sound.

When Sir Christopher Wren designed St. James's Church, Piccadilly, he professedly intended to make it a preaching house; a chancel was in his eyes a non-essential adjunct, and he consistently omitted it; for the inconvenient and mean recess which forms the east end can by no courtesy be called by that name. The quasi-apse of St. Paul's Cathedral is poor and ordinary, and lacks the comparative dignity of such a window as that which he graciously bestowed on the parish church. Any dissipationate mind will recognise in the dignity and propriety of the chancel of Mr. Ferrey's noble church of St. Stephen's, Westminster, a striking contrast to the unfortunate arrangements of the Palladian building.

The Classic advocates indulge largely in sarcasms and appeal to protestant feelings in disparagement of what they are pleased to call mediæval and popish; and rail at the idea that Gothic should be exclusively Christian or ecclesiastical. Of course, it is simply a misstatement that Gothic is essentially more Christian or ecclesiastical than the Byzantine church of St. Sophia (now desecrated as a mosque), the quaint and fantastic sacred structures of the Kremlin, the Saracenic mosque of Cordova, or the Palladian church of St. Peter's at Rome. The consecration and dedication of a building to the worship of God and the honour of our Saviour render a building Christian or ecclesiastical. With equal justice the Classic might call, and has in fact called, the Gothic a feudal and foreign style; in utter forgetfulness that Palladian or Classic is the really exotic introduction and innovation. We might conclude from the fierce invective of the uncompromising Classic, that our forefathers actually lived in caves and dens, but certainly not in houses; that they knew no other method of crossing a river than by a ford; that the feudality of our old mediæval nobles had never erected a castle after all; that the corn was never garnered into a barn; and that, as there was neither cottage nor manor house, so the guild never met in a town-hall.

In the admirable work on domestic architecture issued by Mr. J. H. Parker, of Oxford, we learn that our forefathers were not barbarians after all, that increase of accommodation and a gradual advance in the supply of home comforts were proportionate to the general development of more refined manners and higher cultivation in the people. A distinct and appropriate expression was given in accordance with the destination of the building; stern exclusion and strength to the castle of defence, openness and space

to the market-hall and warehouse, and commodiousness to the domestic dwelling; decoration never masked the construction, and uniformity or irregularity of plan were adopted in accordance with the practical requirement; truthfulness was the great aim of every work, and the design was adapted to the material which was most ready to the hand with consummate skill. Suitableness, not the comparative value or cost of reduction, was the object of the architect. On the same principle which assigns every old relic of the past to a monastic building, local authorities ascribe every house of a later period to the designs of Inigo Jones; fortunately, however, we are enabled still to point out dated examples of bridges, like those of Durham, centuries old, still in use; of castles without number, such as Alnwick, yet inhabited by the highest among our noble families; of manor houses, like Thornbury; halls, like those of Crosby Street and at Coventry, yet remaining to convince the most hostile opponent that Gothic art was eminently adapted to secular requirements, and was not only of a domestic character, but applicable in its purest and most distinctive form to every purpose, military and civil, in the same degree and with as equal success, as in its grander ecclesiastical development. It was at once a national, English, living, versatile, and universal style, adapted to the climate. The principles of construction and ornamentation were identical in every building, while the ground-plans were indefinitely multiplied in accordance with the objects of their design. May we ask, then, what is that peculiarity of arrangement in the proposed Foreign Office which Gothic is unable to supply, and Palladian only can afford? Is it only the dull uniformity of the street front, the sham covering of stucco which conceals a faulty brickwork, the portico dark and gloomy, the flat roof on which snow collects in masses, the ugly ranges of windows, not contemplated in pure Palladian, which are to be reproduced on a larger scale? Is the marvellous variety of metal cowl and tile-tops, which seem indispensable adjuncts in the modern style, preferable to the tall chimneys of the Elizabethan period? Does the narrow square window-case admit a greater breadth of light than the wide many-mullioned Tudor bay? Is the long sky line of the parapet, scarcely broken by unmeaning vases, preferable to the high-pitched ornamental roof?

The architects in many instances would be at their wit's end if desired to account for the addition of domes which cover nothing; of balustrades in impossible places, where none but the moon-loving, domestic cat, or perhaps a bricklayer's labourer with a relay of stucco, mounting by a ladder by day, occasionally may be seen; or of porticoes which certainly are not required by our English climate, but most indubitably have to be furnished with awnings,—a fact which proves them to be an unnecessary protrusion on the front—in sunshine or rain. When we have added portico, pediment, niche, vase, urn, column, pillar, pilaster, trophies, and shivering statues, rustic work, coigns, and all the costly and exuberant accessories of the Palladian style, what is the splendid result? Is it commensurate with the cost of production? Is it anything more imposing than a wall pierced with holes for windows, and built up between two pillars, like a damaged tablecloth set to dry between two poles? The great end and aim can only be to conceal the method of construction, for columnar architecture is essentially unfitted to an elevation of stories and successive lines of rooms, piled one above the other; for it would puzzle our Classic friends to find in the cell of a Greek temple any approach to a room of sufficient size for the purposes of a public office, or to discover in a Roman villa a chimney, a comfortable apartment—not excepting the great hall, where the impluvium would prove more than disagreeable on a wet day—or a window, just as the peristyle of a Greek temple concealed the absence of windows, and the pediment cannot harmonise with modern, flanking windows. The adaptation, therefore, of Greek or Roman (a mere debased form of the Greek) architecture to modern purposes being simply anomalous, unsuitable, and unreal, must be in consequence wholly unsuccessful.

The Palladian style, which must adapt itself to modern requirements of stories and windows, is therefore neither Greek nor Roman; by no figure of

speech can it be correctly termed Classic. It was the consequence of the Renaissance, a debased and motley form of Gothic in its decline, with the addition of Classic details. It must be conceded that a building should possess a character and expression suitable to the purpose of its design; and it is quite idle to sneer at Gothic ornament and symbolism while our Palladian façades are decorated with the inappropriate metopes, sacrificial skulls, and cinerary urns, which in their modern adaptation can mean nothing. But let us ask where is the model of Palladian art? Is it the fragment of Whitehall? Is it the steeple of St. Bride's, or that of Christ Church, Albany Street, or the extinguisher-spire of All Souls'? Is it the combination, of the pyramid and statue of Bloomsbury, or of the cupola, square towers and pediment of Hanover Chapel—that triumph of eclectic skill? Are we to find it in the awedly Classic bulk of S. Pancras, or in the domes of Greenwich and the four courts of Dublin; in the porticoes of the Royal Exchange, the Post Office, the British Museum, the Mansion House, and Fitzwilliam Museum; in the round portico of All Souls', or the semicircular portico of St. Mary's, Bryanston Square? Are we to discover it in the long red line of Chelsea Hospital? or shall we turn to the high-shouldered galleries of the Randolph Gallery in Oxford, in Downing College, Cambridge, or the pillared front of Somerset House? or are we to seek the grand idea in the imitative fronts of the clubs of Pall Mall? Where, oh! where? In one word, let us ask what is the Palladian style but a foreign importation from a climate where windows must be screened from the heat, to a country where the sun is welcome? What is it but a poor and unsuccessful imitation of Classic, with the disguised outlines and elements of Gothic art?

It has proved a mischievous assertion that Gothic is peculiarly adapted to ecclesiastical architecture. Partisans, in the heat of argument, most unwisely applied the term Pagan to Palladian, and the word Christian to Gothic, architecture; and their antagonists have with equal justice retorted, "Agreed; take Gothic for your churches, but allow us to apply Palladian to civil purposes." The real answer is, that Gothic is no more, in its essence, Christian or ecclesiastical, than Palladian—which rose out of the debasement of Gothic—is. Lord Palmerston conceived the argument triumphant when he asserted and repeated, for sheer delight, that Gothic was the proper style for a monastic building or Jesuit College. His Lordship can always obtain a cheer and laughter; his pleasantry and good-humour are undeniable, and his tact and knowledge of his audience wonderful and attractive. But, *ne sutor ultra crepidam*. We have Gothic secular buildings in abundance which were never monastic; and a heavy foreign horse with its worsted trappings and burden of bells, no more resembles his Lordship's pet race-horse at the last Derby, than the proverbially meretricious exuberance of ornament and heavy cumbrous architecture of the order established in the sixteenth century, to which he refers, is comparable with the chaste beauty of Salisbury Cathedral or the exquisite delicacy of Lichfield. Mr. Spurgeon went a step further; Gothic, in his eyes, being the production of mediæval and popish art, was declared by him to have been the invention of the devil himself; a saying pungent, no doubt, but as logical and true as many other of that mountebank's dicta. Unfortunately, he forgot that the Cathedral of Rome, which is of course peculiarly popish, that the churches of the Oratorians, the most popular order in this country, and the more modern churches of the Continent, with all their furniture and ornaments, are not Gothic, but of the period of the Renaissance. The gravest mistakes occur, as a great writer observes, when "men make it as if were their scale by which to measure the bounds of that which is most perfect, and taking it by the furthest distance from the error last condemned."

The Gothic is practical, truthful, and free; it can be, as it has been, applied to every purpose, civil or religious. If the case were different, the fact would be destructive to the assertion that Gothic is a national style. It appeared almost at the same period in northern France, in Germany, and in England; each country laid its peculiar impress upon

it; it could not be essentially costly, for it was the architecture of centuries; it was equally not monastic, for every civil and domestic building was built on its ground-plans and with its details. It admitted of a really artistic effect at a far less cost and with a smaller expenditure of ornament than any subsequent Palladian building. Instead of the heavy entablature, it rejoiced in arches, and pierced its solid walls with arcades and windows, which mullions render elastic, to admit the cheerful light, while decoration was only a subordinate and supplementary feature. In point of fact, Gothic never died out in England, for it was not dull and formal, like the Palladian, but free, pliant, and accommodating—adapted to the simple village church as to the sumptuous cathedral, to the baronial hall as to the retainer's cottage; applicable to the various wants and the improvement in the habits of each period; never stationary, always progressive, but by successive stages of progress arriving at maturity. In the reigns of Elizabeth and the first two Stuarts, churches such as Probus and Higham Ferrers, halls such as that of Lambeth, colleges in the university, libraries such as the Bodleian, more useful than the dome of Radcliffe, and manor houses and the cottages of the humbler classes, retained its outward and inner characteristics in construction and detail; no doubt owing to the convenience, moderate cost, capability, and nationality of this style. We have yet to learn whether Halifax has done wrong in refusing to follow the examples of Birmingham, Leeds, and Liverpool in the preference which it has shown for Gothic in its town-hall. Few persons, we presume, will lament with Wren and his tears, because he was compelled to add aisles to St. Paul's, although he contrived to mask their existence by the ingenious addition of the screen to which we have already alluded.

The politician, the polemic, the practical man, the economist, and the artist, have all aimed their shafts against the Gothic style. The new Palace of Westminster is pronounced to have been unnecessarily costly, although a great proportion of the expense was forced upon the architect by the interference of Parliament, the experiments in ventilation, and continual enlargements of the original plan. With an inconsistency of argument, a double-edged dilemma for those who advance either the one or the other—for both assertions cannot be true—the elevation is declared to be Gothic, and therefore bad; and again to be not Gothic, and, therefore, abominable. Let us say this for Sir Charles Barry, if he adopted the florid style of the decline of Gothic architecture, that he made his design when the revival of Gothic was in its infancy, and bravely framed a civil building without the contemporaneous folly of erecting a monster, a secular structure on the principles of ecclesiastical plan and detail. We are prejudiced; let those who come after us decide, as impartial judges, whether that noble palace, with all its alleged shortcomings, is or is not, as accomplished foreigners have pronounced it to be, the noblest monument of the architecture of our day—*sub judice lis est*. It has been called, with truth, a Classic outline invested with Gothic detail, and extravagant decoration was the consequence; *hinc ira, hinc illic lacrymæ*. Let superfluity in ornament be proscribed in the new offices, and the architect must obey.

Mr. Scott is now the object of Palladian enmity. In Parliament, out of Parliament, members of the Commons and of his own profession, adepts, sciolists, and men ignorant of the merits of the whole question, and of architecture in general, jeer and argue. He is condemned because, as a Gothic architect, he furnished Gothic designs, although no particular style was prescribed; he is condemned although his designs were confessedly the best in that style, and stood second both for the Foreign and War Offices; second, that is, to two competitors who only severally were considered to have taken the highest place. That decision, made by professional judges, and the tone of the report of a committee of the House of Commons, equally witness to his merit; and we sincerely regret to see signs of timidity or compromise on his part in many details of his amended (?) design; extorted from him, either by the animosity of his opponents, or by the influence of a brilliant writer who wishes to

force the foreign elements of Italian Gothic upon our adoption. We regard it with apprehension, as other architects of eminence have already swerved in that direction. Let a plan be given, and the requirements stated, and Mr. Scott, in his own style, but not in one to which he is a stranger, will be able to carry out the task. He has proved himself a master of Gothic,—he is but a novice in other styles.

The Gothic, essentially Teutonic, has grown up simultaneously with the language, laws, and constitution which have made our England what she is in letters, justice, and government. In the aisles of Westminster, Cuxton first exercised his immortal art; in St. Stephen's Chapel and in the old Palace of Westminster, our old worthies wrought out our freedom as a people; in the cloisters of our universities studied the men who have ennobled our literature. Feudality was dying out when Gothic art was developed out of the debased Classic forms. England will still furnish us with models for our churches and houses; Belgium, Northern France and Germany, equally Teutonic, with examples for those great public buildings and halls which are wanting in our country. Eclecticism will not live in England. The adaptation of the buildings of Mr. Hardwicke at Lincoln's Inn, of those now in course of completion at the Temple, and of the new Oxford Museum, to modern requirements, are acknowledged, and the set of public opinion in favour of Gothic is established by the fact that every important building, civil or ecclesiastical, erected in the last year, bears the features of Gothic or the Renaissance, but certainly not of Classic art. The question now is whether London will oppose this re-action in favour of the national style. The question must speedily be answered, for the present houses in Downing Street, despite their shores, may any day be no more than a pile of ruins; and then are we to employ Mr. Scott, the architect of the Hall of Hamburg, who is no servile copyist, or the modern follower of Soane, Wren, Jones, Vanbrugh, and Chambers? Let us bear in mind in making our decision that architecture forms the outer and enduring form of the public life, the witness to the social progress and state of art in a country. Our present eminence we owe to the influence of Gothic art, and every improvement or failure in the buildings of the state will infallibly affect our street architecture and descend to the lowliest dwelling. Gothic has a royal parentage; it was at once the combination and development of Roman and Byzantine art, and in this country possesses a character distinct from that of the Continent; lighter, therefore more inexpensive, purer from classical elements, and possessing better proportions and a more harmonious adjustment of its constituent parts. It is not a mere object for our admiration, but should form the model for our constant employment. These observations will, we trust, dispose of the objections of the writer whose pamphlet, a querulous reply to some unknown opponent, appears in the second place in connection with this article, "Classic or Pseudo-Gothic?" His complaints that "Gothic is more expressive of the spirit of ecclesiastical domination than of true Christianity" are historically untrue: his assertion of "the suitability of the Italian style to our wants" is as unsupported by proof, and as entirely contradicted by experience, as his singular opinion of the "innate savageness, roughness, and rudeness of Gothic architecture," or "the perishable character of its style, sculpture, mouldings, tracery," &c. His remark, that "Classic architecture is really more scientific than Gothic," we must simply deny. In his eyes a chancel is "useless;" the "adytum or cell of the temple is reproduced in the sacrum of a church" (has he ever measured a *cella*, or does he know what it contained?); the profane excesses of a mob at St. George's in the East are suggested as a hint that "people will show an equal indisposition to play at religious architecture;" and the use of theatres as preaching-houses, and the style of Mr. Spurgeon's tabernacle, are insinuated as proofs that the popular taste lies in that direction, while he disowns being "the panegyrist of our Classical architecture as it appears during the present century," and admits that "the use of Gothic in churches is popular with a large portion of the more

highly educated members of the Church." We agree with him that we require "good, roomy, useful, economical churches;" but we doubt, for reasons already given, if the use of Classic architecture will serve that purpose with a "practical and common-sense people." As virtue and vice still exist, we shall not linger to reply to his metaphysical discussion of their influence on our acceptance or rejection of the Gothic art of the middle ages.

Sir Francis Scott, Bart., in his pamphlet, the first on our list, entitled, "Shall the Foreign Office be Gothic or Classic?" is lively, amusing, and well-informed, but, unfortunately, he at times suffers himself to be betrayed into unnecessary personalities and an objectionable imputation of motives. His criticisms are generally just, his observations often original, and always full of sound sense, and his matter readable, but (alas! those buts!) occasionally he pens an ambitious sentence which mars the continuity of his remarks. There are scattered throughout his pages abundant proofs of a careful study of his subject-matter, although we might demur to a few of his deductions. His instance of the want of symmetry in the Pompeian villa, and in the arrangement of the buildings of the Acropolis (p. 16) we commend to the consideration of those who inveigh against the irregularity of Gothic ground-plans; while his approval of the employment of colour in buildings not Gothic would be acceptable to Mr. Penrose. The fronts of several London clubs, and the decay of Italian palaces, with justice incur his condemnation. Those who enjoy a half-hour with a pleasant companion, will do well to procure Sir F. Scott's little brochure.

In conclusion, we must profess our anxiety with Lord Palmerston for "external simplicity combined with a sufficiency of ornament," and "a plan that will also harmonise with the other buildings in the locality for which it is designed." But we are also anxious to ascertain whether two different architects are to design the Foreign and War Offices, and whether it be with the Treasury buildings, or with the new Palace and the old Abbey of Westminster, that they shall harmonise?

SHORT NOTICES.

A Selection of Sacred Poetry for Private and Congregational Use. By John H. Mills. (Hughes and Butler, St. Martin's-le-Grand.) The sacred poetry in this little volume has been carefully and most judiciously selected by the hon. librarian to the London Cambrian Society, and set to appropriate melody, which is for the most part original, and excellent in its simplicity and correctness of parts. It is addressed to the inhabitants of the Principality of Wales, but will prove a welcome addition to the purposes of family religious service. The lines of Bishop Heber, "Thou art gone to the grave," are done justice to in the air composed by Mr. Mills.

We quote the concluding stanza:—

"Thou art gone to the grave, but I were wrong to deplore thee,

When God was thy ransom, thy guardian, thy guide;
He gave thee, and took thee, and soon will restore thee,
Where death hath no sting, since the Saviour hath died."

Glycerine and Cod-Liver Oil. By W. Burnham Willmott. (Baillière, Regent Street.) The extraordinary healing virtues of cod-liver oil seem now placed beyond dispute; and though glycerine does not possess all the remedial powers attributed to it, there can be no doubt of its efficacy in certain affections of the ear, eye, and skin, and it appears to have been found useful as a substitute for cod-liver oil in some cases of phthisis. Dr. Crawcour, of New Orleans, states that, in his practice, glycerine has entirely superseded cod-liver oil. The question has, however, been set at rest by Dr. Cotton, physician to the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, at Brompton, who considers that glycerine has but little influence upon phthisical cases, and that as a remedial agent in consumption it will bear no comparison with cod-liver oil. The work before us contains a clear history of this latter valuable medicine; the source and mode of its preparation, its chemical aspect, mode of action and exhibition in disease. The *pro* and *con* with reference to cod-liver oil is duly given, and the names of authorities quoted, who are favourable to its use. Cod-liver oil has been used in certain parts of the globe from

a very distant period, as a popular remedy for rheumatic affections. In Norway and Sweden it has been held in great esteem, and its reputation spread all over Germany, where it was extensively employed. It was not, however, until 1771 that it attracted for the first time the attention of the profession in this country, but it has only been during the last few years that its utility in cases of scrofula and consumption has been developed. To Dr. Hughes Bennett must be attributed the chief merit of having introduced it to the notice of the English medical profession. Mr. Willmott dilates upon the various kinds of oil, and affords the proper tests to distinguish the real from the spurious article; in a word, everything is said, in a brief, concise form, that bears upon this drug—the sketch of glycerine and its characters being given in an equally able manner. The work concludes with a chapter on physic-taking, or counsels for the sick, somewhat stale and twaddling, and by no means equal to the other portions of the volume.

The Grand Volunteer Review. By George Augustus Sala. Second edition. (W. Tinsley, Strand.) *Report of the Royal Rifle Match on Wimbledon Common.* By John Scofield, M.B. (Ward and Lock, Fleet Street.) These pamphlets will be found most interesting at the present period, every movement of the volunteers being watched daily with increasing interest. Moreover, when an author like Mr. George Augustus Sala himself volunteers to give a narrative of the review, we know at once that it must be a terse and eloquent sketch of the proceeding. This it really is, and a narrative of the target-shooting at Wimbledon is appended, equally neat and descriptive. Dr. Scofield, the author of "Projectiles," has rendered his report of the rifle match in a satisfactory manner, including a full account of "What has been done in competition rifle shooting?" "What is doing throughout the nation?" and "What should be done in future." There is also a full description of new lubricants; and a criticism on the Swiss and English styles of rifle shooting followed by a notice of muzzle and breech loaders is given. Among the weapons we noticed ourselves upon the field was a chain-revolving rifle, by Mr. T. A. G. Treeby, which claimed considerable attention. It contains an endless chain of revolving chambers, which are brought up successively by the action of cocking the gun. The chain can be increased in a few moments to any length, by adding a number together. It is only intended for fixed positions, such as loop-holes, breast-works, ship sides, &c. Mr. Treeby's breech-loader is also most unquestionably a superior weapon, and should be seen by all interested in gunnery and its manufacture. The Prince Consort appeared much pleased with Mr. Treeby's inventions.

The Illustrated Boy's Own Treasury. (Ward and Lock, Fleet Street.) This is a very superior book to its predecessors of the same class. It is very true that "boys will be boys;" but the boys of this generation are very different to the boys of the last, at least as regards their education. "The Illustrated Treasury" is admirably adapted to the youth of the present day; it contains much that is amusing, combined with a good deal of useful information based upon art and science, and presented in an easy, popular form. The illustrations are numerous, and perfectly suited to the character of the work.

The Work of Christ; or, the World Reconciled to God. Sermons by the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies, M.A. (Cambridge: Macmillan.) Mr. Davies has already some reputation as a theologian, and is the joint author of a very beautiful and remarkable translation of the "Republic" of Plato. He belongs to what is called the Broad Church school, and a very advanced section of the Broad Church school, too. It is impossible to avoid being much struck with the deep feeling and earnestness, as well as the very considerable ability, that characterise his work. The "Sermon on the Sabbath-day" is an excellent example of his vigorous common sense, and a profound Christian point of view. Some portions of the work are of a very controversial description. Mr. Davies seems to hint at a charge of New Platonism being brought against him—a charge of a very vague description, and very frequently made by men who was ignorant enough of the history and literature of New Platonism. He speaks very

strongly against the popular theory of the atonement, although his views, upon examination, will not be found so far dissentient as might be supposed. For ourselves, we must say that we entirely question the wisdom of preaching such polemical discourses before a mixed congregation. We subjoin a specimen of Mr. Davies's volume from the preface:—"Holding as I do, then, the necessity of the Sacrifice of Christ, both for the satisfying of the Father and for the salvation of mankind, I cannot at all admit Mr. Hebert's objection, that no adequate reason can be given for the death of Christ except the necessity of a punishment. I still protest against rationalising too much (as it may fairly be called) on the need of the death of Christ. I still contend that the fact is more to us than any theory about the cause of it. But if, for the free outflow of the Father's love and forgiveness upon our race, it was needful that the sinless Head of that race should enter into the closest contact with our sin, and should overcome it, and so be qualified to represent humanity adequately grieved for sin in the Father's eye; and if for the actual redemption or deliverance of mankind out of the bondage of death and sin it was needful that the Head of mankind should die and rise again the conqueror of death and sin;—these, surely, are no less adequate reasons for the passion of our Saviour, than if we argue that God could not pardon the sinner without a punishment. No less adequate, as regards the ends to be obtained; and far more worthy of God. Mr. Hebert objects that to suppose that the Father gave up His Son to such sufferings as He endured without any necessity for those sufferings, is more disparaging to the nature of God than to assume that He was subject to the necessity of vindicating His own law by the infliction of penalties. Possibly; but if the deliverance of mankind was to be the end of the sufferings of Christ, and if the glory of God were to be specially manifested through the Cross, these were worthy objects for which God should give up His own Son."

Through the Tyrol to Venice. (Nisbet. 1860.) We have followed Mrs. Hall with much interest and pleasure in her delightful tour "Through the Tyrol to Venice." In these days of universal travelling and rapid locomotion, it is somewhat rare to find old scenes invested with a new interest; and her animated and graphic descriptions are really quite refreshing, especially as contrasted with the "books of travel" with which most people come in contact. The lovely scenes of the Tyrol, the incidents of the way, the manners and characters of the peasantry, &c., are described with a charming freshness and simplicity; and we linger delightedly among the marble arches of Verona, and the majestic columns and gorgeous palaces of the "Queen of the ocean, beautiful Venice." The volume is enriched by many classical allusions and historical reminiscences. Mrs. Hall carries us back to the days of the power and greatness of Venice, when the Doges of the Republic took their place among monarchs; or those later and darker times, when the people, oppressed by the power of the aristocracy, after many ineffectual struggles for freedom, abandoned Venice to her fate, and she became an easy prey to the conqueror. We must also notice the interesting biographical sketches which are occasionally presented to us, particularly those of the brave defenders of the Tyrol, when the power of Bavaria was armed against the liberty and independence of their country. Those who are personally acquainted with the scenes here described, will doubtless value Mrs. Hall's book as recalling many a "sunny memory," while we could imagine that it would tempt some "stay-at-home travellers" to explore for themselves the marvellous beauty of those mountain fastnesses, and to wander by the bright waters of the Adriatic.

Life in the Sea; or, the Nature and Habits of Marine Animals. Written and compiled by Lancelles Wraxall. (Houlston and Wright.) Books of natural history are always fresh, always interesting. The dullest writer can scarcely fail to be lively when describing the different forms of animal life; the man who cares least for the acquirement of knowledge, will be attracted by a glimpse at animated nature. In the present age such studies are peculiarly acceptable, since they are calculated to divert the mind from the weariness of daily toil, and to refresh and strengthen it at the same time.

A novel may possibly have the same effect, but in that case it must be a work of real genius, whereas a book of natural history requires only accuracy in its facts, and some taste and skill in their arrangement, to prove extremely valuable and attractive. "Life in the Sea," although compiled from a compilation, may boast of these merits, and is altogether a very pleasant and readable volume. At this season of the year, when almost every one is seeking a sea change, this book will prove a not unwelcome companion. It abounds with curious and suggestive facts, and if it contains also some stories which savour of the fabulous, Mr. Wraxall simply tells the tale as it was told to him, and does not incur the responsibility or affect the character of an original discoverer. Out of respect to their size and standing as marine animals, Mr. Wraxall commences his book with an account of whales, and descends "the ladder of oceanic creation, step by step, to the smallest and simplest types of existence." We recommend our readers to follow in his wake. Mr. Wraxall is a far more agreeable and respectable companion, as a writer of natural history, than he proved in his somewhat ill-conditioned narrative of "Camp Life."

Four Sermons Preached in the Chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge. By the Rev. W. G. Clark, M.A., Public Orator. (Cambridge: Macmillan.) These are the manifest productions of a pious, able, and accomplished man. It is very rare and very refreshing to find so much hard thought and so much clear knowledge exhibited in the compass of a sermon. The first sermon has some sort of resemblance to an article that appeared lately in the "Saturday Review," but it is possible enough that the sermon and the article were by the same pen. Mr. Clark writes with much feeling and earnestness, but his polished and sometimes ornate style is open to the charge of mannerism. The sermon on "Gradual Revelation" strikes us as being a thoughtful piece of theology, calculated to be very useful to many minds at the present day. We trust that Mr. Clark will publish many more of his sermons, which will present a wonderful contrast to the great mass of similar productions. We earnestly trust that the numerous portion of Mr. Clark's Trinity audience who are to be our future clergy, will learn from him that a sermon requires to be something more than a mere study of texts and truisms to command the attention and respect of intelligent listeners.

The Experience of Forty Years in Tasmania. By Hugh M. Hull, F.R.S. (Orger and Meryon, Fenchurch Street.) Tasmania, nearly as large as Ireland, and situated between the 40th and 43rd parallels of latitude, is a colony as yet not too well known, but where there seems very little doubt that emigrants may find employment by thousands, provided they are disposed to work. The climate "is equal, if not superior, to that of the healthiest part of Europe; with a winter not more severe than that of the south of France; a summer not hotter than that of London; a spring equalling that of Montpellier; and an autumn like that of the south of England." This small work is the substance of a lecture on the "Capabilities of Tasmania," delivered by Mr. Hull in 1859, and which was prepared for the purpose of being circulated at the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. The middle and working classes of this country may glean reliable information respecting Tasmania from these pages, which bear the evidence of truth and unprejudiced opinion, so different to the contradictory statements we receive from Auckland as to the demand for labour and the cheapness of the land in that quarter. A proof of the prosperity and liberality of the colonists is given by the author. "When the colonists were invited by the governor to subscribe to the 'Patriotic Fund' to aid the widows and orphans of the Crimean war, they responded to the call at once, by sending in a sum equal to £1 15s. 8d. for every householder in Tasmania, or 6s. 3d. for every soul in the colony; a subscription unparalleled in the British dominions." Everything connected with the colony is briefly but clearly described in this pamphlet, which will prove a pleasant and useful handbook to any Tasmanian emigrant.

The Present Relations of Science to Religion: A Sermon. By the Rev. Frederick Temple, D.D.,

head-master of Rugby School. Among the papers read before the British Association at Oxford, none were of greater importance, and none came from a source entitled to more respect, than this sermon of Dr. Temple's, preached before the University of Oxford during the meeting of the association. It is a remarkable sermon, but all Dr. Temple's sermons are remarkable. It is written with that severity of reasoning characteristic of the disciples of Bishop Butler; it is of course very different to the great majority, and could be addressed with propriety to very few congregations. We scarcely ever extract from a sermon, but the very high literary merit displayed on the present occasion will make our readers grateful for a quotation. The passage rather reminds us of an essay of the author's in the "Essays and Reviews," and also of some of the earlier chapters of the "Analogy." "The student of science now feels himself bound by the interests of truth, and can admit no other obligation. And if he be a religious man, he believes that both books, the book of Nature and the book of Revelation, come alike from God, and that he has no more right to refuse to accept what he finds in the one than what he finds in the other. The two books are indeed on totally different subjects; the one may be called a treatise on physics and mathematics, the other a treatise on theology and morals. But they are both by the same Author; and the difference in their importance is derived from the difference in their matter, and not from any difference in their authority. Whenever, therefore, there is a collision between them, the dispute becomes simply a question of evidence."

Is there, then, no harmony between the Bible and science? Are they, if not foes, yet so distinct as to have no point of meeting? Not so. But this harmony is to be looked for in a different direction; not in petty details of fact as we to find it, but in the deep identity of tone, character, and spirit which pervade both the books. Where, for instance, in all literature, is the wonderful patience of God's operations more clearly exhibited than in the Bible? Again and again are we, as it were, reminded that to Him a thousand years are as one day, and one day as a thousand years. To Him, an absolutely infinite Being, what difference can there be between long and short? why should He not spend ages as willingly as seconds? So He chooses out a people two thousand years before it is wanted, and drills it and disciplines it from the call of Abraham to the coming of our Lord; all, as it seems, to make a fit scene for that four years of our Lord's ministry, and a fit instrument for conveying His message to the world. Is not this like the same Hand that lavishes in unmeasured profusion thousands of years to make a continent, to stock it with mountains and rivers, with mines and stone-quarries, all, as it seems, to be a scene for the history of one of our passing nations? Or again, look at the enormous waste that seems to meet us in the very conception of choosing a people at all. The Jews were God's chosen, but what were all the rest? Some few races, we can see, were trained up for similar, though inferior, purposes; but how vast a number seem no more than a mere store of material useless for the present? And is there not a similar waste in the creation of nature-stores of fossils buried where they can be of no value, plants growing where none can enjoy them, seeds and eggs by millions that never come to life at all? Or again, look at the marvellous adaptation to human feeling which marks every precept of the Bible, and compare it with the wonderful beauty and beneficence of nature. Or again, look at the awful sternness with which the Bible threatens all disobedience, and compare it with the merciless severity of the physical laws when they are disobeyed. Or again, look at the mystery of repentance, the restoration to favour so often accompanied by no remission of the penalty, and see if nature does not often repair a fault in such a way as to leave the punishment for life. Or again, look at the strange instances of curses turned to blessings, and men apparently raised in some sense to a higher state by having fallen, and compare it with those strange caprices, as we call them, by which nature sometimes changes mischief into downright improvement. Whatever may be the case as regards the details of the narrative, assuredly there can be no mistake regarding the spirit of the Author.

The more the Bible is studied, and the more nature is studied, the deeper will be found the harmony between them in character, the more assured the certainty that whoever inspired the one also made the other. And most assured will that certainty be in the mind of him who studies the Bible as it was meant to be studied, not as an interesting historical record, but as the guide of life, the revelation of spiritual truth, the awakener and the kindler of religious inspiration.

The Screw Propeller. Who Invented it? By Robert Wilson. (Glasgow: Thomas Murray and Sons.) The author of this elaborate pamphlet writes it for the purpose of publicly claiming as his own the important invention of the screw propeller. He is confident that he will be able to establish, by undoubted documentary evidence, that he "not only invented and tested on the sea, before committees of the Highland Society and Society of Arts, but, at great personal sacrifices, used all the means in his power to introduce the screw propeller for ocean navigation long before Mr. Smith, the patentee, had even his attention directed to the subject."

The British Ferns at One View. By Berthold Segman, Ph.D., F.L.S. (London: Van Voorst.) This is a most useful map of British ferns, well coloured, and neatly classified. Its object is to "serve as a key to the writings of Newman, Moore, and others, by exhibiting at one glance all the general species of British ferns."

A Plain and Easy Account of British Ferns, together with their Classification, Arrangement of Genera, Structure, and Functions, and a Glossary of Technical and other Terms. Edited by Phebe Lankester. (London: Hardwicke.) A very neat edition of a useful work; and as ferns are now so popular an object of inquiry, we have no doubt the pretty little volume before us will have a large circulation.

Biographies for Young People. (J. H. and James Parker, Oxford and London.) "Aunt Lucy" has put the lives of Alfred the Great, Bernard Gilpin, the Chevalier Bayard, and Blaise Pascal, into a very pleasing and instructive form.

"They in their glorious course the guides of youth,
Whose language breathed the eloquence of truth;
Whose life, beyond perceptive wisdom, taught
The great in conduct, and the pure in thought."

The record of such lives will always be of use to young people starting in life, and we trust many will learn, in tracing these "Footprints on the sands of time," to follow where they lead.

The Manor and the Mill; or, the Boy's Institute; and Object in Life. (J. and C. Mozley, Paternoster Row.) Two pretty simple tales, having a good end in view,—the profitable employment of time, and the learning to exercise the power of doing good to our neighbours.

Lectures on Prayer. (John W. Parker and Son, West Strand.) *Household Prayers in Scriptural Language.* By a Member of the Church of England. Second Edition. (Bell and Daldy, Fleet Street.) These two volumes come in good season together. The "Lectures on Prayer," by the author of "Lectures on Parables," and "Lectures on the Scripture Revelation of a Future State," are plain and practical, and free from abstruse disquisition, and suited to persons of various classes. It is most necessary to know how, why, and when to pray, and we find in this volume much wholesome advice on these points, especially in the third lecture and fourth, "What Things are to be prayed for," and "Prayer for one another." The second edition of "Household Prayers" is an acceptable work; and, if possible, an improvement on the former edition.

THE MAGAZINES.

"The Art Journal." July. (Virtue.) The author of "Life in Spain," Mr. Walter Thornbury, has contributed a half-pleasing, half-painful sketch of the career of Proctor and Deane, sculptors, to the July number of this pleasant journal. The engraving from the royal pictures in this number is *Peace*, painted by J. Drummond, R.S.A., and engraved by Lightfoot. It was purchased by the Prince Consort at the private view of the British Institution in 1850.

In the seventh part of "Rome and her Works of Art," Raffaele is illustrated by engravings from *Daniel and David*; "Arabesque Decorations in the Vatican"; *The Finding of Moses*; *Marine Monsters*; *The Miraculous Draught of Fishes*; and *The Virgin with the Carnation*, which Mr. Dafforne considers "an excellent example of Raffaele's earliest style; delicate and graceful as a composition, but not entirely free from the manner of Perugino." A paper will be found on "Study from the Life," bearing reference to Lord Haddo's observations in the House of Commons, and showing clearly that the study of the figure cannot be relinquished. "Let Lord Haddo address the Royal Academy on the subject, let him read the lectures of Reynolds, Barry, Fuseli, Opie, Flaxman, Leslie, and fifty sound authorities on art, and he will there learn that the study of the life is indispensable to art education. Lord Haddo may, from season to season, bring forward his motion, and may convert a more important minority, but he cannot succeed in his absurd crusade against life study." *Bacchus and Ariadne* is the subject of the engraving this month, which has been most happily translated by Mr. Cousens. The soft, hazy glow of sunshine, with "bits" of classic architecture, is very beautiful. This picture is at Kensington. "The Fine Arts in Canada" is most appropriate at this particular moment, when our future King has just left his own shores, to give countenance and encouragement to everything progressing in that colony, especially as he has derived every instruction from his parents in all that pertains to art. The sixth part of "The Hudson, from the Wilderness to the Sea," with illustrations by Benson J. Lossing, the author, will be found interesting. A list of the valuable gift of fifty water-colour drawings, the property of the late Colonel Ellison, of Juddbrook Holme, Lincolnshire, to the Kensington Galleries, and which we have alluded to in a recent number, will be found in these pages. The engraving by R. A. Artlett, from the statue of P. Macdowell, R.A., *Reading*, is chaste and delicate. This work, by a Royal Academician, reminds us of the elevation of Mr. Augustus Leopold Egg, recently an associate, and we cannot but agree with the editor of the "Art Journal," that, with due deference to the very great merits of this clever artist, an injustice has been done to Mr. Frost, a senior associate, and a painter of unquestionable talent, who has been passed over in the election. Mr. and Mrs. Hall continue their pleasant journeyings in the Emerald Isle, and invariably continue to furnish subjects for amusement and instruction.

MORNING IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The wind is waking,
The trees are shaking
Dew showers from above,
With thousand voices
The forest rejoices—
All earth is breathing love.

Here with half-shut eyes
Orchids rise,
Still dreaming of gales and showers;
There Lilia, whose pillow
Is La Plata's cool billow,
Peers from her crystal bowers.

And air, with the hues
That the prison wears,
With rainbow forms is cloven,
As each bird from her nest
Soars arrayed in a vest
From threads of the sun's light woven.

Snowy peaks, that all night
Throned on mists in the light
Of the moon shone like Isles of Heaven.
Unshrouded again,
Are rock bound to the plain,
By the fetters that Night had given.

And clouds that on ocean,
Till morn without motion,
Hung hueless, grey, and dim,
As Earth's to-night sorrow
Gilds Heaven's to-morrow,
Now glisten around the Sun—

And the Spirit of Life
With creation is rife,
On wave, and hill, and plain;
And Death, gathering night
From the shadows of night,
Lashes his steeds again.

H. R. H.

NEW BOOKS.

- Andros (A. C.), Pen and Pencil Sketches of a Holiday Scamper through Spain, post 8vo, 7s.
- Arthur (W.), Italy in Transition, Public Scenes and Private Opinions in 1860, post 8vo, 6s.
- Aunt Dorothy's Will, by Cyela, 2 vols., post 8vo, 21s.
- Authentic Records of the Revivals in the United Kingdom, edited by Reid and Bonar, 12mo., 3s. 6d.
- Baker (C.), Bible Class Book, for Schools, 2nd edition, 12mo., 4s.
- Boucher (J.), Volunteer Rifleman and the Rifle, 3rd edition, 8vo, 6s.
- Bradshaw's Shilling Hand-Books—Great Britain, new edition, 4 parts, 1s. each.
- Bruce (J.), Glasgow Prize, The Plague of London, 12mo., 1s.
- Charente (A.), Exercises Adapted to the French Language, part 4, 12mo., 3s.
- Cheever's Whaler's Adventures, edited by Rev. W. Scoresby, 4th edition, 12mo., 2s. 6d.
- Chester (H.), Schools for Children and Institutes for Adults, 8vo., 1s.
- Colletta (P.), History of Naples, new edition, 2 vols., 8vo., 34s.
- Crawford (J. R.), Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans, from the edition of Tischendorf, 4to., 6s.
- Dalton (W.), Christian Instruction, founded on the Church Catechism, 4th edition, 12mo., 2s.
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- Donaldson (J. W.), Varroianus' Introduction to Ethnology of Ancient Italy, 3rd edition, 8vo., 16s.
- D'O'Orsey (A.), Great Comet of 1858, a Poem, 8vo., 1s.
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- Drummond (H.), Speeches and Miscellaneous Pamphlets, 2 vols., post 8vo., 21s.
- Englishman's Greek Concordance of New Testament, 3rd edition, royal 8vo., 42s.
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- Fisher (J. C.), Liturgical Purity Our Rightful Inheritance, 2nd edition, post 8vo., 6s.
- Foot (C. W.), Death of Chatterton Case, Turner v. Robinson, 8vo., 1s. 6d.
- From London to Lucknow, 2 vols., post 8vo., 14s.
- Glasgow Infant School Magazine, new edition, 18mo., 3s.
- Glen (W.), Law Relating to Licensing Refreshment and Wine Houses, 12mo., 2s.
- Goodacre's Fruits of Sin, Six Plain Sermons, 12mo., 1s. 6d., and 2s.
- Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield, new edition, 12mo., 2s.
- Hamilton (J. P.), Reminiscences of an Old Sportsman, 2 vols., post 8vo., 15s.
- Hamilton (Sir W.), Lectures on Metaphysics and Logic, vols. 3 and 4, 8vo., 24s.
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- Kelty (M. A.), Eve'side, a Devotional Diary for the Close of the Day, post 8vo., 5s.
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- Oliphant (L.), Patriots and Filibusters, Incidents of Travel, post 8vo., 5s.
- Oliver and Boyd's Scottish Tourist—Trossachs and Loch-
lomond, 1s.; Glasgow, 1s.; Edinburgh, 1s.
- Parlour Library—Trollope (Mrs.), Widow Barnaby, 12mo., 2s.
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- Philp (R. K.), History of Progress of Great Britain, vol. 2, 8vo., 7s. 6d.
- Porcelain Painting, a Practical Treatise for Amateurs, 12mo., 1s. 6d.
- Robinson (E. J.), The Daughters of India, their Social Con-
dition, &c., post 8vo., 3s. 6d.
- Sabine (E.), Observations at St. Helena, vol. 2, 4to., 42s.
- Sauer (J.), Modern French Syllable, 3rd edition, 12mo., 1s. 6d.
- Scoffern (J.), Report of Rifle Match at Wimbledon, 12mo., 1s.
- Short Essays on Short Texts, by a Layman, 12mo., 2s.
- Smith (J.), Companion to Hand-Book of Tables for Use of Merchants, 8vo., 7s. 6d.
- Taylor (H. J.), Rudiments of Greek Grammar in English, new edition, 12mo., 4s.
- Taylor (W. F.), Prophet's Lamp in Steam of Time, 8vo., 1s.
- Temple's Sermon, Relations of Science to Religion, 8vo., 1s.
- Thoughts in Verse for Christian Children, 2nd edition, 18mo., 1s.
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- Walpole (H.), Castle of Otranto, new edition, 12mo., 2s.
- Warrea (H.), Guide to Beginners in Art of Illuminating, 12mo., 2s. 6d.
- Who Shall be Duchess? or the New Lord of Burleigh, 2 vols., post 8vo., 21s.
- Winslow (G. E.), Our Covenant with God, 12mo., 6s.

THE WEEK.

NEW LITERATURE.

THE works in course of publication at this season of the year are growing rather scanty in number and unimportant in character. People are glad to escape to the woods and waters, and to relax all graver studies. Nevertheless, some works of very heavy calibre have just been issued. The Messrs. Blackwood have published two more volumes of Sir William Hamilton's lectures, under the careful editorship of Mr. Mansell and Mr. Veitch. That school of philosophers who believe in the teaching of Mr. Mansell and his great master, Sir Wm. Hamilton, will not fail to receive these books with great enthusiasm, and will find themselves furnished with abundant food for study and meditation during the long vacations. The same publishers have issued Mr. Laurence Oliphant's new volume, "Patriots and Filibusters," which will be eagerly welcomed by Mr. Oliphant's deservedly numerous admirers. Mr. Stanford gives us "A Scamper through Spain," by Mr. Andros, and at this time, when *savants* are scampering through Spain (the alliterations must be excused), this thin volume will be interesting enough. The Messrs. Longman continue to issue first-class works with startling rapidity. The "Remains of an Old Sportsman" will prove very attractive to a numerous class. More serious literature is represented by Mr. Crawford's "Critical Edition of the Epistle to the Romans," based on Tischendorf's text. To this head may also be referred another "History of the Church of England (Debary)." A collection of Mr. Drummond's humorous and effective speeches (Bosworth and Harrison) will be deeply interesting not only to those who knew and loved the man, but to all who love witty eccentricity and learned wisdom. We also notice the second volume of Sabine's "Observations at St. Helena." Of course there is a due supply of books proper to the season. For instance, there are new guide books to parts of Ireland and Scotland, the latter for the Trossachs, for which, however, there could not be a better guide than the much-loved "Lady of the Lake." There are also books for schoolboys and school-girls, some of them right pleasant reading for the holidays, but the young people will doubtless consider that others bear an ominous reference to the impending close of the vacations. The half-yearly volumes of the serials have now made their appearance. It is unnecessary to say that there is something about the volunteer movement and Wimbledon Common. History is favourably represented by an Edinburgh translation of Colletta's "History of Naples." The work seems rather heavy, but it deserves every success: those who wish to read the "Times" foreign correspondence in an intelligent manner ought to make some acquaintance with these volumes. There is a more than usually large number of reprints of our slighter English classics. "From London to Lucknow" is rather a plagiaristic title: we recollect Mr. Thackeray's "From Cornhill to Cairo," but alliterative titles are decidedly silly. The Rev. Alexander J. D. O'Orsey, of Glasgow and Madeira reputation, has made another appearance as the author of the "Cambridge Prize Poem for Undergraduates." Mr. O'Orsey, without being well known to the general public, has in several directions attained an extraordinary local fame. We are glad to see among the new editions another of Mr. Munroe's charming allegories, and another of Florence Nightingale's wise little "Notes on Nursing."

THE ECLIPSE.

The solar eclipse of Wednesday was total within a zone which commences on the earth on the western coast of North America, in longitude 125 deg. 42 min. N., not far from the mouth of the Columbia River, in the Oregon territory. Its course is thence over the Rocky Mountains, near Cumberland House, and south of York Factory, in the Hudson Bay district, where preparations had been made for observing the phenomenon, as also at Cape Chudleigh, in Labrador, which is near the central line. The American Government have provided for the proper observation of the eclipse at this point. From Cape Chudleigh the course of the central eclipse is across the Atlantic in a south-easterly direction, and it first strikes the shores of Europe about forty-five miles west of Santander,

in Spain, crossing that country in the direction of Oropesa, near which place it launches into the Mediterranean, and passing over Ivica enters Algeria in a longitude of 4 deg. 20 min. east of Greenwich. It leaves the earth near Massowa, on the Red Sea, in longitude 39 deg. 25 min. E., and latitude 15 deg. 56 min. N. From a communication made by Baron Plana, director of the Observatory at Turin, to the Academy of Sciences of that city, we learn that the moon's disk there eclipsed ten digits, or five-sixths of the solar disk. It was total in Spain at the following points:—Santander, Oviedo, Vittoria, Burgos, Saragossa, Valencia, and perhaps Pampeluna. "At the latter place there was a tenth of a digit of the sun's disk unobscured, it being situated on the very verge of the shadow-zone covered by the total eclipse; this occasioned some slight inaccuracies, and caused the rejection of certain terms in calculation. At the Oviedo, the total obscuration lasted longest in Spain, viz., 3 min. and 33 sec.; at Burgos it lasted 3 min. 30 sec.; at Santander, 3 min. and 32 sec.; and at Valencia, 3 min. 21 sec. But the maximum duration of totality, which was not observable in Spain, was four minutes. The maximum distance of the centres of the two disks, 5 minutes. In London the moon came into contact with the sun at 1h. 39m. a.m. The greatest eclipse took place at 2h. 40 p.m., when 82-100ths of the diameter were covered. The moon finally separated from the sun at 3h. 54m. p.m."

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.

A ray of hope seems at last about to dawn on the unhappy parish of St. George's-in-the-East. The Rev. Bryan King will shortly retire from the charge of the district for a year, and thus allow time for the restoration of his health, which has been materially impaired by the incessant anxiety of the last fourteen months. During his absence, Mr. King's place will be occupied by the Rev. S. Hansard, who has for some years been actively engaged in the parish of St. Mary's, Bryanstone Square. This gentleman is, we hear, a sound but liberal Churchman, unconnected with any of the extreme parties of the day, and therefore well calculated to allay the feuds which have desecrated the Church, and disgraced the people, of St. George's. Many eyes will be upon the parishioners to see how they respond to this arrangement—an arrangement which ought, and which will, if accepted in a right spirit, be the means of restoring peace and confidence to all parties.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S.

This house was well attended on Saturday night to witness the appearance of Madlle. Maria Cabel, as Maria, in "La Figlia del Reggimento." In our impression of last week we had occasion to advert to her *début* in the shadow scene from the opera of "Dinorah," and then stated that we should reserve our judgment until we had had a better opportunity of judging of her powers. We regret that our impression of her acting and singing on Saturday is by no means favourable, and that we are compelled to confess that her style is hardly suited to the Italian stage. She possesses brilliancy of vocalisation, but it is the brilliancy of study, and not that which arises from a genuine inward appreciation of her composer's music. Sometimes, however, we admit she created an enthusiasm, but that arose rather from the facile management of her voice, which astonished by its aptitude at overcoming almost impossible *fioriture*, rather than from any peculiar beauty in its intonation. We are not prepared to say whether Madlle. Cabel would not have achieved a success had she have made her *début* at an earlier period in the season, before the public had been satiated with novelties; we are rather inclined to think that she might possibly have done so. Such not being the case, we trust that a comparative failure at the outset of her engagement with Mr. E. T. Smith will not be a reason for her final withdrawal from the company. Signor Ciampi, too, somewhat disappointed us as Serjeant Salpizio; his interpretation of the part was formed on that which he gives to Dr. Bartolo in the "Barbiere," and was therefore hardly

consistent with the character of "un vieux militaire." Signor Belart was capital as Tonio. His singing and acting were equally good, and may fairly be pronounced the mainstay of the opera on Saturday night.

Between the acts Madame Ferraris danced in a ballet divertissement, and, as usual, caused an immense sensation. It is a great pity that the management does not give the public an opportunity of witnessing this lady's talents in some ballet where they would be seen to greater advantage.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Whenever Mr. Gye undertakes to revive an opera, there is never the least occasion to doubt but that it will be done in a manner that will both confer honour on the author and on himself. No expense is spared to render the appointments necessary to secure its success complete in every respect; but, what is more, taste is not wanting to ensure that a lavish expenditure shall be turned to good account, so that while the ear is amused by the well-executed strains of the composer, the eye is charmed by the unity of arrangement and the attention paid to harmony of effect. Rarely has Mr. Gye, however, succeeded in combining these two essentials so marvellously as he has done in the production of the "Prophète." From first to last it is one *embarras de richesse*, and may fairly be pronounced the grandest spectacle which has been produced on the stage since Mr. C. Kean retired from the management of the Princess's. The splendour and elegance of the *mise en scène* are only to be seen to be appreciated. The costumes are the richest we ever remember to have witnessed, especially in the Coronation tableau, where the noble stage of the theatre tells magnificently in giving a general effect. The mechanism of the skating and banquet scenes in the last act is marvellous, and makes one inclined to doubt whether, in truth, a scenic representation, and not an actuality, is being given. Such a production must have entailed an enormous outlay upon Mr. Gye, which it is utterly impossible the receipts of this season will suffice to cover. It has, however, placed at his disposal an opera which will never fail to draw a full house, and one which always delights the subscribers to his theatre whenever it is acted.

Passing from the consideration of that department which is confided to Mr. A. Harris, let us turn our attention to the music itself, which, after all, for *habitués* constitutes the chief attraction. It was the success which attended the production of the "Huguenots" at this house in 1848 which led to that of "Le Prophète" in the following year. It was cast with Madame Viardot, Miss Catherine Hayes, Signori Mario, Marini, and Tagliafico, and in that respect was likely to meet with greater justice than when first acted at the Grand Opera at Paris. Brilliant as were the accessories, it cannot be safely said to have laid hold of popular favour as did the "Huguenots" of the same composer. Many reasons may be advanced for this, but none perhaps with a greater approximation to the truth than that the impression created on the public mind by the "Huguenots" arose from the originality of idea which the opera evidently embodied. "Le Prophète" following so soon after, appeared to many a repetition of it and an attempt to excite interest on the same ground as had already been occupied. Other causes, however, combined to make it a work less likely to establish itself among us. The story is not so interesting; and although a debated question, the music in our estimation is not of so sterling a quality. The libretto, in truth, is lugubrious to such a degree, that it astonishes us Meyerbeer should ever have been able to make anything of it. In doing this, he has shown the depth of his musical genius more than many other works which have emanated from his pen. As an example of his powers, we would appeal to the magnificent introduction to the pastorate of Jean in the first act, to the trio sung by the two Anabaptists and the Count Oberthal, and the choral and dance music in the skating scene—all of which are unrivalled as specimens of musical expression, unassisted by any poetry of idea to be found in the libretto.

Five years have elapsed since "Le Prophète" was given at Covent Garden. Since then it has been

frequently acted in Paris with varied success. The part of Fides has been filled successively by Madame Viardot, for whom Meyerbeer wrote it, Madame Grisi, Madame Tedesco, and now we have it allotted to Madame Csillag. Without instituting a comparison between her and her predecessors, we are not prepared to say that she is well suited to the part. Dramatically, perhaps, yes, but vocally not. In many passages the music is quite out of her register; and if she does not fail in executing it, the fact is rather due to the musical knowledge she possesses than to any other cause. As Fides Madame Csillag gains upon her audience by her impassioned style of acting. Her grief is truly sympathetic, and her intonation of the pathetic scenes singularly deep and affecting. The same influence which she gains over her hearers as Fidelio, is sensibly apparent in her Fides. In the third act, when as the destitute mother (ignorant of his being her son) she falls at the Prophet's feet, her acting was superb, only to be equalled by the terrible energy thrown into the succeeding scenes, where he denies her, and brings down upon himself a mother's curse.

We are at a loss to understand why Signor Mario did not undertake the part of Jean of Leyden. He must have had cogent reasons for not doing so, seeing that he filled it some years ago with great success. In Signor Tamberlik he met with an efficient substitute, and one who never fails to please in whatever character he may appear. His performance was artistic and finished in every sense of the word. It is to be regretted that he has come before us so late in the season. As a tenor, there is no doubt that he possesses talents of the highest order, such as would always make his services valuable.

Madame Miolan-Carvalho, we believe, meditated taking the part of Bertha, but, for what reason we know not, relinquished it. Madlle. Corbari, in accepting it, attempted what is hardly within the scope of her powers. She nevertheless showed signs of study and zeal that prevent us speaking disparagingly of her performance. The three miserable Anabaptists were sustained by Signori Neri-Baraldi, Polonini, and Zelger, who did their utmost to render them interesting,—we fear a somewhat hopeless task. Signor Tagliafico sung pleasingly as the Count Oberthal.

The band and chorus were not quite so well up in their duties as usual; their ordinary excellence may have rendered us somewhat hypocritical.

MADLLE. VANERI'S AND M. SAMARY'S MATINEE MUSICALE.

The concert of these talented *artistes*, which we announced last week to take place on Monday, came off at Messrs. Collard's convenient rooms, in Grosvenor Street, with more than the usual success which attends *matinées musicales*. This is to be attributed in no small degree to the excellent selections embodied in the programme, and to the admirable manner in which they were executed. Madlle. Vaneri, whose progress in public favour during this season at Her Majesty's promises well for her future, sang, with a refinement and delicacy rarely equalled, "Qui la voce," from "I Puritani," and also some French romances; in both she was enthusiastically applauded, but wisely declined to accept an *encore*. She was, however, obliged to yield to the universal demand for a repetition which followed upon her execution of Gounod's "Ave Maria," founded on a prelude of Bach, in which she was accompanied by M. Samary on the violoncello, and M. Frank on the piano. We do not remember to have heard this composition before the present occasion; and certainly, judging of it from the masterly interpretation given by Madlle. Vaneri and her *collaborateurs*, we are prepared to say that it is a work of the highest pretension, and one which alone would have rendered her concert interesting. The dramatic element which finds its way into this lady's singing, even on the platform, told admirably in giving effect to the piece, and imparted an enthusiasm to the audience not often to be found in those who frequent morning concerts. Mme. Ernesta Grisi sang an air from "Italiana in Algeri," and a Neapolitan barcarolle, with considerable expression, while Madame Everardi well maintained the favourable opinion we had already formed of her singing in Benedetti's and De

Beriot's air, "Prendi per me sei libero," and in the duet "Mira la bianca luna," with Signor Belart. This gentleman is decidedly the most promising tenor of the day, and Mr. E. T. Smith has done well to secure his services, which we believe he has, for next season's opera. Whatever he undertakes exhibits conscientious study and desire to please. His method, too, is admirable, without being boisterous; his voice is telling, which quality, added to an easy enunciation of difficult passages, all combine to render him a singer of great promise. M. Jules Lefort gave some of his charming French romances with a taste which has become peculiarly his own. He gained a well-merited *encore*. The *débütante* on the occasion was Madlle. Laure Colmache, who, although unknown to the metropolis, has obtained a name in Paris as a *pianiste* of most finished taste. Much as we are disposed to doubt the reports which reach us from that quarter in musical matters, we must admit that we were agreeably surprised to find that the prowess of the lady in question even exceeded what rumour had affirmed. Her style of playing is essentially expressive, and delights by its delicacy and pathos. Without being feeble in touch, she has the art of bringing out the tones of the instrument, and at the same time allows none to predominate so as to mar the harmony of the whole. She played Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith" and St. Heller's solo "La Truite" charmingly; in the latter she was *encored*. Of M. Samary, as a violoncellist, we must speak in terms of unqualified praise, inasmuch as he proved himself entitled to it by his brilliant execution of a solo founded on airs from the "Favourite," and on our own melody, "Robin Adair." We trust that we may have further opportunity of hearing him next season. M. Remusat gave a solo on the flute with great vigour and taste; as also Mr. Osborne on the piano. Signor Rubini, Mr. Frank, M. Braga, and M. Modérate conducted in their usually efficient manner.

CONCERT AT MR. GLADSTONE'S.

There was a very excellent concert at Mr. Gladstone's house in Carlton House Terrace on Tuesday morning. Miss Chatterton gave her *matinée musicale* to a large, fashionable, and gratified assemblage. The attractions were numerous, but none greater than the young lady's own performances on the harp. Nothing could be more skilful and brilliant than her performance; we augur the greatest success for this young and promising *artiste*. Madame Lemaire gave in her best style the favourite air from "Gli Ugonotti," "Nobil Signor." In the second part she substituted for the piece in the programme, "Il segreto per esse felice," in which she proved herself a worthy successor to Albani. Our space does not allow us to particularise at any length. Madame Rudersdorff exerted herself with great success. Signor Marras sang with excellent feeling his own melody, "S'io forsi un angelo del paradiso." Mr. Kiallmark gratified us highly by his pianoforte solo of some of Chopin's and Thalberg's music.

THE DRAMA.

THE LYCEUM.

On the occasion of the Civil Service Rifle Brigade benefit at this Theatre on Wednesday, night, Mr. Tom Taylor's new comedy, entitled "A Lesson for Life," was produced with unequivocal marks of success. The hero is a Cambridge undergraduate, whose extravagance has led him into pecuniary difficulties. To extricate him from them, his father is compelled to dispose of a valuable library—his only property—for sale, and to place his young cousin out as a governess in the house of a grand personage, where she is insulted by one of his university companions. In his distress, the young man determines to lay siege to the heart of a rich widow, hoping in the event of his suit being accepted, to rid himself of his liabilities. Failing in this, he contemplates suicide, but is prevented from carrying out his design by the timely interposition of his father and cousin. The piece as a literary composition hardly comes up to the standard of Mr. Taylor's other works. It is by far too prosy, and partakes too much of the spirit of religious sentimentalism to suit a general audience. The

characters, however, are well drawn, and discover a master hand. It would be unfair to submit the amateurs to whom were entrusted the interpretations of the parts to the ordeal of criticism. Suffice it to say that their acting was above the average. Mr. Morrison, who played the part of an old clergyman, Captain Hood, who figured as the spendthrift, Vivian, and Mr. Tom Taylor himself, as a German Jew, were particularly clever. The evening concluded with an address by Ensign Edmund Yates, and the "Irish Lion." It is difficult to say whether the audience or the actors were most delighted with the result of the entertainment.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GLEANINGS.

Miss Ellen Lyon and Miss Leffler's *matinée musicale* at Collard's Rooms, on Saturday, was well attended. We were much pleased with the singing of Miss Rose Herse, who, although she has not been long before the public, is evidently making her way to favour. Her voice, indeed, gives her every title to it, and we should not be surprised if at some future day we find her taking a prominent place among concert-singers.

Madame Vaucheran's annual *matinée musicale* at the Beethoven Rooms was well attended by her numerous friends. The *bénéficiaire* herself played a grand duet with Mr. Walter Sangster for two pianos, entitled "Euryanthe," composed by M. Henri Raima, and also a solo (*Les Arpiges*), by Theodore Kullak. Her execution is fluent and expressive, especially in the *andante* passages, and throughout gave great satisfaction to her audience. Her greatest success, however, was in a duet with Herr Goffrie, whose instrumentation was of the highest order. Mrs. Rowcroft sang "Ernani involami," we trust for the last time; as, if she values public appreciation in the least, she will do well to avoid inflicting upon her hearers so tasteless a performance as hers was on this occasion; her shake was the best feature of the song. Mrs. Newton sang "With verdure clad" with great feeling; she was equally happy in the other airs allotted to her in the programme, more particularly in the "Bolero," from the "Sicilian Vespers." The German lied "Zu ihr dahn!" sang by Herr Carl Eibenschütz, would have gone off with great effect had he been better accompanied; as it was, his deep bass voice told very well. Miss Donia, Miss Van Norden, and Mr. Tovey, while not being vocalists of the highest order of merit, yet acquitted themselves very creditably. M. Paque and Herr Schmidt, on the violoncello and viola, sustained their old reputation as good musicians. Messrs. W. Sangster and P. E. Van Norden officiated as conductors.

SCIENCE.

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONGRESS.

THE fourth session of the International Congress of All Nations was inaugurated on Monday last, in the Hall of King's College, Somerset House, by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, in the presence of many of the most scientific celebrities of Europe, including delegates from Austria, Bavaria, Denmark, France, Hamburg, Hanover, Holland, Norway, Prussia, Russia, Saxo-Coburg and Saxo-Meiningen, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States, and the majority of the British Colonies.

Among those present were the Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson (President of the Congress), the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper (Vice-President), Lord Brougham, Lord John Russell, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Earl Stanhope, Lord Ebrington, Lord Montagu, the Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie, M.P., Lord Harry Vane, M.P., Mr. Slaney, M.P., Mr. Alderman Salomons, M.P., R. Monckton Milnes, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Dallas, the American Minister; Mr. T. Chambers, Q.C., Dr. Wm. Farr, Dr. W. A. Guy, the Rev. Dr. Jeff, Sir B. I. Murchison, Major Graham, and Mr. A. Bonham Carter.

The first business of the Congress was the election of officers and the adoption of regulations for the general and sectional meetings. A preliminary meeting had taken place, presided over by the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Trade, who, on the part of the Government, offered its acknowledg-

ment of the service rendered by the delegates in coming from such great distances to attend the Congress in London, asserting that the Government would do all in its power to assist their deliberations. The third session of the Congress took place at Vienna in 1857.

The Prince Consort was received with considerable enthusiasm, and, on taking the chair, delivered the following address, which was constantly interrupted by loud manifestations of applause:—

Gentlemen,—The Statistical Congress of All Nations has been invited by the Government to hold its fifth meeting in this metropolis, in conformity with the wishes expressed by the late Congress held at Vienna in 1857. Although, under these circumstances, it would have been more properly within the province of a member of the Government and Minister of the Crown to fill this chair and open the proceedings of the day, as has been the case in previous meetings of the Congress in other places, the nature of the institutions and the habits of the people of the country in which this assembly was to take place, could not fail to make itself felt, and to influence its organisation. We are a people possessing and enjoying the most intense political life, in which every question of interest or importance to the nation is publicly canvassed and debated. The whole nation, as it were, from the highest to the lowest, takes an active part in these debates, and arrives at a judgment with regard to them on the collective result of the thoughts and opinions thus called forth. This Congress could, therefore, only be either a private meeting of the delegates of different Governments, discussing special questions of interest in the midst of the general bustle of political activity, or it had to assume a public and a national character, addressing itself to the public at large, and inviting its co-operation. The Government have chosen the latter alternative, and have been met by the readiest response from all sides. They have, I think, wisely chosen; for it is of the utmost importance to the object the Congress has in view—namely, not only the diffusion of statistical information, but also the acquisition of a general acknowledgment of the usefulness and importance of this branch of human knowledge,—that the public, as a whole, should take up the questions which are intended to be investigated, and should lend its powerful aid. Gentlemen, this explains, and must serve as an apology for, my presuming to hold the post of your president, for which I otherwise feel full well my unworthiness. When, however, the Commissioners for the organisation of the Congress expressed to me their desire that I should do so, I felt it incumbent upon me not to withhold my individual co-operation, carrying with it, as it would, an assurance to the British people that the object of the meeting was one which had enlisted the sympathy of their Queen, and testifying to the foreign delegates the esteem in which she holds them personally, and her appreciation of the science which they serve. Let me now welcome them to this country, and welcome them on behalf of this country. It is here that the idea of an International Statistical Congress took its origin, when delegates and visitors from all nations had assembled to exhibit in noble rivalry the products of their science, skill, and industry in the Great Exhibition of 1851; it is here that the statistical science was earliest developed; and Dr. Farr has well reminded us that England has been called by no less an authority than Bernoulli, "the cradle of political arithmetic," and that we may even appeal to our Domesday Book as one of the most ancient and complete monuments of the science in existence. It is this country, also, which will and must derive the greatest benefits from the achievements of this science, and which will consequently have most cause to be grateful to you for the result of your labours. Gentlemen, old as your science is, and undeniable as are the benefits which it has rendered to mankind, it is yet little understood by the multitude, new in its acknowledged position among the other sciences, and still subject to many vulgar prejudices. It is little understood, for it is dry and unpalatable to the general public in its simple arithmetical expressions. Much labour is re-

quired to wade through endless columns of figures, much patience to master them, and some skill to draw any definite and safe conclusions from the mass of material which it presents to the student; while the value of the information offered depends exactly upon its bulk, increasing in proportion with its quantity and comprehensiveness. It has been little understood, also, from the peculiar and often unjustifiable use which has been made of it; for the very fact of its difficulty and the patience required in reading up and verifying the statistical figures which may be referred to by an author in support of his theories and opinions, protect him, to a certain extent, from scrutiny, and tempt him to draw largely upon so convenient and available a capital. The public generally connect, therefore, in their minds, statistics, if not with unwelcome taxation (for which they naturally form an important basis), certainly with political controversies, in which they are in the habit of seeing public men making use of the most opposite statistical results with equal assurance in support of the most opposite arguments. A great and distinguished French minister and statesman is even quoted as having boasted of the invention of what he is said to have called "l'art de grouper les chiffres;" but if the same ingenuity and enthusiasm which may have suggested to him this art should have tempted him or others, as historians, to group facts also, it would be no more reasonable to make the historical facts answerable for the use made of them, than it would be to make statistical science responsible for many an ingenious financial statement. Yet this science has suffered materially in public estimation by such use; although the very fact that statesmen, financiers, physicians, and naturalists should seek to support their statements and doctrines by statistics, shows conclusively, that they all acknowledge them as the foundation of truth, and this ought therefore to raise instead of depressing the science in the general esteem of the public. Statistical science is, as I have said, comparatively new in its position among the sciences in general, and we must look for the cause of this tardy recognition to the fact, that it has the appearance of an incomplete science, and of being rather an helpmate to other sciences than having a right to claim that title for itself. But this is an appearance only; for if pure statistics abstain from participating in the last and highest aim of all science—viz., the discovery and expounding the laws which govern the universe—and leave this duty to their more favoured sisters, the natural and the political sciences, this is done with conscious self-abnegation, for the purpose of protecting the purity and simplicity of their sacred task—the accumulation and verification of facts, unbiassed by any consideration of the ulterior use which may or can be made of them. Those general laws, therefore, in the knowledge of which we recognise one of the highest treasures of man on earth, are left unexpressed, though rendered self-apparent, as they may be read in the uncompromising, rigid figures placed before him. It is difficult to see how, under such circumstances, and notwithstanding this self-imposed abnegation, statistical science, as such, should be subject to prejudice, reproach, and attack; and yet the fact cannot be denied. We hear it said that its prosecution leads necessarily to Pantheism and the destruction of true religion, as depriving, in man's estimation, the Almighty of His power of free self-determination, making His world a mere machine working according to a general pre-arranged scheme, the parts of which are capable of mathematical measurement, and the scheme itself of numerical expression; that it leads to fatalism, and therefore deprives man of his dignity, of his virtue and morality, as it would prove him to be a mere wheel in this machine, incapable of exercising a free choice of action, but predestined to fulfil a given task and to run a prescribed course, whether for good or for evil. These are grave accusations, and would be terrible indeed if they were true. But are they true? Is the power of God destroyed or diminished by the discovery of the fact that the earth requires 365 revolutions upon its own axis to every revolution round the sun, giving us so many days to our year, and that the moon changes thirteen times during that period, that the tide changes every six hours,

that water boils at a temperature of 212 degrees according to Fahrenheit, that the nightingale sings only in April and May, that all birds lay eggs, that 106 boys are born to every 100 girls? Or is man a less free agent because it has been ascertained that a generation lasts about thirty years, and that there are annually posted at the post-offices the same number of letters on which the writer had forgotten to place any address; that the number of crimes committed under the same local, national, and social conditions is constant; that the full-grown man never ceases to find amusement in the sports of the child? But our statistical science does not even say that this must be so; it only states that it has been so, and leaves it to the naturalist or political economist to argue that it is probable, from the number of times in which it has been found to be so, that it will be so again as long as the same causes are operating. It thus gave birth to that part of mathematical science called the calculation of probabilities, and even established the theory that in the natural world there still exist no certainties at all, but only probabilities. Although this doctrine, destroying man's feeling of security to a certain extent, has startled and troubled some, it is no less true that, while we may reckon with a thoughtless security on the sun rising to-morrow, this is only a probable event, the probability of which is capable of being expressed by a determined mathematical fraction. Our insurance offices have, from their vast collection of statistical facts, established to such a precision the probable duration of man's life, that they are able to enter with each individual into a precise bargain on the value of this life; and yet this does not imply an impious pretension to determine when this individual is really to die. But we are met also by the most opposite objection, and statistics are declared useless, because they cannot be relied on for the determination of any given case, and do only establish probabilities where man requires and asks for certainty. This objection is well founded, but it does not affect the science itself, but solely the use which man has in vain tried to make of it, and for which it is not intended. It is the essence of the statistical science that it only makes apparent general laws, but that these laws are inapplicable to any special case; that, therefore, what is proved to be law in general is uncertain in particular. Herein lies the real refutation also of the first objection; and thus is the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Creator manifested, showing how the Almighty has established the physical and moral world on unchangeable laws conformable to His eternal nature, while He has allowed to the individual the freest and fullest use of his faculties, vindicating at the same time the majesty of His laws by their remaining unaffected by individual self-determination. Gentlemen, I am almost ashamed to speak such homely truths (of which I feel myself at best to be a very inadequate exponent) to a meeting like this, including men of such eminence in the science, and particularly in the presence of one who was your first president, M. Quetelet, and from whom I had the privilege, now twenty-four years ago, to receive my first instruction in the higher branches of mathematics—one who has so successfully directed his great abilities to the application of the science to those social phenomena, the discovery of the governing laws of which can only be approached by the accumulation and reduction of statistical facts. It is the social condition of mankind, as exhibited by those facts, which form the chief object of the study and investigation undertaken by this congress, and it hopes that the results of its labours will afford to the statesman and legislator a sure guide in his endeavours to promote social development and happiness. The importance of these international congresses in this respect cannot be overrated. They not only awaken public attention to the value of these pursuits, bring together men of all countries who devote their lives to them, and who are thus enabled to exchange their thoughts and varied experiences, but they pave the way to an agreement among different governments and nations to follow up these common inquiries, in a common spirit, by a common method, and for a common end. It is only in the largest number of observations that the law becomes apparent, and the truth becomes more

and more to be relied upon, the larger the amount of facts accurately observed which form the basis of its elucidation. It is consequently of the highest importance that observations identical in character should embrace the largest field of observation attainable. It is not sufficient, however, to collect the statistical facts of one class over the greatest area and to the fullest amount, but we require, in order to arrive at sound conclusions as to the influences operating in producing these facts, the simultaneous collection of the greatest variety of facts, the statistics of the increase of population, of marriages, births, and deaths, of emigration, disease, crime, education, and occupation, of the products of agriculture, mining, and manufacture, of the results of trade, commerce, and finance. Nor, while their comparison becomes an essential element in the investigation of our social condition, does it suffice to obtain these observations as a whole, but we require also, and particularly, the comparison of these same classes of facts in different countries, under the varying influences of political and religious conditions, of occupation, races, and climates. And even this comparison of the same facts in different localities does not give us all the necessary materials from which to draw our conclusions; for we require, as much as anything else, the collection of observations of the same classes of facts in the same localities and under the same conditions, but at different times. It is only the element of time, in the last instance, which enables us to test progress or regress—that is to say, life. Thus the physician, by feeling the pulse of the greatest number of persons coming under his observation, old and young, male and female, and at all seasons, arrives at the average number of the pulsations of the heart in man's normal condition; by feeling the pulse of the same person under the most varied circumstances and conditions, he arrives at a conclusion on this person's pulse; again, by feeling the pulse of the greatest variety of persons suffering from the same disease, he ascertains the general condition of the pulse under the influence of that disease; it is now only that, feeling a particular patient's pulse, he will be able to judge whether this person is afflicted by this peculiar disease, as far as that can be ascertained by its influence on the pulse. But all these comparisons of the different classes of facts under different local conditions, and at different times, of which I have been speaking, depend, not only as to their usefulness and as to the ease with which they can be undertaken, but even as to the possibility of undertaking them at all, on the similarity, nay, congruity, of the method employed and the expressions, figures, and conditions selected under which the observations have been taken. Does, then, the world at large not owe the deepest obligations to a Congress such as the one I am addressing, which has made it its especial task to produce this assimilation, and to place at the command of man the accumulated experience upon his own condition, scientifically elaborated and reduced in a manner to enable the meanest intellect to draw safe conclusions? Gentlemen, the Congress has at its various meetings succeeded in doing a great deal in this direction; the official statistics of all countries have been improved, and in regard to the census the recommendations of the Brussels meeting have been generally carried out in a majority of States. I am sorry to have to admit the existence of some striking exceptions in England in this respect; for instance, the census of Great Britain and Ireland was not taken on precisely the same plan in essential particulars, thereby diminishing its value for general purposes. The judicial statistics of England and Wales do not show a complete comparative view of the operation of our judicial establishments; nor, while we are in all the departments of the State most actively engaged in the preparation of valuable statistics, can we deny certain defects in our returns, which must be traced to the want of such a central authority or commission as was recommended by the Congress at Brussels and Paris, to direct on a general plan all the great statistical operations to be prepared by the various departments. Such a commission would be most useful in preparing an annual digest of the statistics of the United Kingdom, of our widely-scattered colonies, and of our vast Indian empire. From such a digest the most important results could

not fail to be elicited. One of the most useful results of the labours of the Congress has been the common agreement of all States to inquire into the causes of every death, and to return the deaths from the same causes under synonymous names, sanctioned by the Congress. It has in this instance set the example of establishing what is most desirable in all other branches of statistics—namely, the agreement upon well-defined terms. There ought to exist no greater difficulty in arriving at such an agreement in the case of the various crimes than in that of "causes of death;" and it must be remembered that it is one of the first tasks and duties of every science to start with a definition of terms. What is it that is meant by a house, a family, an adult, an educated or an uneducated person, by murder, manslaughter, and so on? It is evident that as long as a different sense is attached to these terms in different returns their use for comparison is *nil*, and for simple study very much deteriorated; and still we have not yet arrived at such a simple and obvious desideratum! The different weights, measures, and currencies in which different statistics are expressed, cause further difficulties and impediments. Suggestions with regard to the removal of these have been made at former meetings, and will no doubt be renewed. We fancy here that our pound as the largest available unit, with its florin, offers great advantages, particularly if further subdivided decimally. We hope to lay before you, as far as Great Britain is concerned, the Registrar-General's analysis of the causes of death and the dangers that people encounter at each period of life; complete returns of the produce of our mines; the agricultural returns of Ireland, in which the Registrar-General of that country has given every year the breadth of land under every kind of crop, with an estimate of its produce as well as its value, and has proved by his success in obtaining these facts at a comparatively moderate expense, and by the voluntary assistance of the landowners and cultivators, as well as of the clergy of all denominations, that the apprehension was groundless, that it could not be done without inordinate cost or without injuring individual interests. We must hope that, considering its importance with regard to all questions affecting the food of the people, this inquiry will not only be extended to England and Scotland, but also to the Continent generally, wherever it may not already have been instituted. Our trade returns will exhibit the great effects produced on our commerce by the changes in our commercial system; our colonial delegates will exhibit to you proofs of the wonderful progress of their countries, and proofs at the same time that elaborate statistics have rendered them conscious of that progress. And I have no doubt that the foreign delegates will more than repay us by the information which they will give us in exchange. These returns will, no doubt, prove to us afresh in figures what we know already from feeling and from expression—how dependent the different nations are upon each other for their progress, for their moral and material prosperity, and that the essential condition of their mutual happiness is the maintenance of peace and goodwill among each other. Let them still be rivals, but rivals in the noble race of social improvement, in which, although it may be the lot of one to arrive first at the goal, yet all will equally share the prize, all feeling their own powers and strength increase in the healthy competition. I should detain you longer than I feel justified in doing, and should perhaps trench upon the domain and duties of Presidents of Sections, if I were to allude to the points which will there be specially recommended to your attention and consideration; but I trust that it will not be thought presumptuous in me if I exhort you generally not to lose yourselves in points of minute detail, however tempting and attractive they may be from their intrinsic interest and importance, but to direct your undivided energies to the establishment of those broad principles upon which the common action of different nations can be based, which common action must be effected if we are to make real progress. I know that this Congress can only suggest and recommend, and that it must ultimately rest with the different Governments to carry out those suggestions. Many previous recommendations, it is true, have been carried out, but many have been left unat-

tended to, and I will not except our own country from blame in this respect. Happy and proud indeed should I feel if this noble gathering should be enabled to lay the solid foundation of an edifice, necessarily slow of construction, and requiring for generations to come laborious and persevering exertion, intended as it is for the promotion of human happiness by leading to the discovery of those eternal laws upon which that universal happiness is dependent. May He who has implanted in our hearts a craving after the discovery of truth, and given us our reasoning faculties to the end that we should use them for this discovery, sanctify our efforts and bless them in their results. His Royal Highness resumed his seat amid the loudly-expressed applause of the assembly.

At the conclusion of the Prince Consort's address, Lord Brougham expressed his feelings of gratitude, in which he said all present would join, for "the able, well-reasoned, and most useful address of his Royal Highness." The thanks of the meeting were then given to the Prince Consort, who briefly thanked Lord Brougham for his favourable remarks. The Brazilian Minister then addressed his Royal Highness in the French language, and on behalf of the foreign delegates present, thanked him for the large amount of valuable information contained in his inaugural address. The Prince Consort replied in the same language, and formally announced that the Congress was opened for the transaction of ordinary business, and signified his intention of being present every day on which the Congress was assembled.

SECOND DAY.

The various sections of the Congress met again at Somerset House on Tuesday morning at ten. The first section (Judicial Statistics) was presided over by Lord Brougham, who delivered a highly interesting address; the second (Sanitary Statistics), by the Earl of Shaftesbury; the third (Industrial Statistics), by Sir Roderick Murchison; the fourth (Commercial Statistics), by Nassau W. Senior, Esq.; the fifth (Census Statistics), by Earl Stanhope; and the sixth (upon Statistical Methods), by Professor Graham. At each of the sittings a number of by-laws for the regulation of the discussions were agreed to, and foreign secretaries and correspondents appointed for the ensuing year. Several propositions were made and discussed, referring principally to the description of statistics it would be most advisable to collect, and the best modes of obtaining and applying them. The greater portion of the foreign and colonial delegates were present during the morning. His Royal Highness the Prince Consort paid a visit to each section, and attended to the proceedings with considerable interest. At two o'clock the different presidents of the sections and members of the Congress assembled in the large hall of King's College; the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper in the chair. The Secretary read the names of the new foreign delegates who attended on behalf of public departments. Letters were read by Dr. Farr, from several eminent men on the Continent, regretting their inability to attend the Congress. The Chevalier de Branz de Saldapenna, after speaking in high terms of the address delivered the previous day by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, proposed that the addresses and proceedings of the Congress should be in the French language. The President said it would not be expedient to enforce that proposition, and called attention to the existing rule framed upon the precedent of the Vienna Congress, that the addresses and resolutions should be either in the language of the country where the Congress was held, or in French. He was sure that it would not be misinterpreted into a desire to give an English exclusiveness to their proceedings, the general convenience of the majority being the only object in view.

The appointment of foreign secretaries then took place.

Baron Czernig, the delegate from Austria, Herr von Hermann, from Bavaria, and Monz. Quetelet, from Belgium, severally addressed the meeting in the French language, and gave a brief account of the progress made in those countries in the collection of official and other statistics.

Dr. David, from Denmark, and Dr. Asher, from Hamburg, read papers in English, giving similar

information of a general character, and alluding to the importance of procuring accurate statistics where it was desired to have rational legislation.

Professor Wappaus, from Hanover, also read a paper, reporting that in that kingdom statistics of crime, agriculture, and some other matters had been published, and with the greatest advantage.

Dr. Ackersdyk, from Holland, addressed the Congress in French, and spoke of the great assistance which the statistics they possessed had been to the various departments of the Government.

Dr. Baumhauer, Chef du Bureau Statistique au Ministère de l'Intérieur, Holland, read a paper in French to the same effect.

Baron de Maltzahn, from Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and Professor Daa, from Norway, then briefly addressed the meeting (the latter in excellent English), giving an account of the progress made by their Governments in the preparation of sanitary and other official statistics, and returns of the numbers of persons afflicted with blindness, deformities, and diseases of various kinds, more particularly elephantiasis and insanity, which were very prevalent in Norway.

Dr. J. B. Wernadski, Russia, read a paper in French, showing the present condition of the public statistics in Russia.

M. Visschers, from Belgium, briefly addressed the Congress in French.

M. Hopf (Saxe-Coburg and Saxe-Meiningen), said that since he last had the honour to present a paper to the Congress, some very valuable additions had been made to the statistics of the two Duchies, more particularly with regard to their large forests.

M. Kolb, from Switzerland, read a paper in French, giving the various cantons in which statistics are now collected, and referring to the difficulties that had to be overcome in getting a complete statistical organisation throughout the States of the Confederation.

Agob Effendi, member of the Turkish embassy, having read a paper in French, which was received with considerable applause.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to all the foreign delegates, which was cordially given, and the meeting adjourned at five o'clock. About sixty members were present during the day.

THIRD DAY.

FIRST SECTION.—Judicial Statistics.

Present.—Lord Brougham, President of the section; the Right Hon. Joseph Napier and Dr. Asher, Vice-Presidents; Mr. Redgrave, Mr. L. Levi, and Mr. J. Hill Williams, Secretaries.

Agob Effendi and M. Daa were elected Foreign Vice-Presidents, and M. Koolomzine was chosen Foreign Secretary.

The consideration of Mr. Leone Levi's paper was resumed, and several additional resolutions were agreed to.

M. Baumhauer, a member of the Commission appointed by the Vienna Congress, presented a statement on a comparison of the penal laws of Belgium, France, the Netherlands, and the kingdom of Saxony, and gave a brief analysis of the contents of his paper.

A paper entitled "A few words why the Judicial Statistics of England should be extended to Ireland," by Mr. Bullen, was presented to the section.

SECOND SECTION.—Sanitary Statistics.

Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. Certain additions proposed to be made to the method of reporting hospital statistics contained in Miss Nightingale's paper, read the previous day, were discussed. These proposals were fifteen in number. All the others were adopted, except that referring to the registration of deaths from secondary diseases, which was withdrawn for future consideration.

The consideration of Dr. Sutherland's paper on a uniform scheme of sanitary statistics was resumed. The propositions were discussed, and adopted with several additions and modifications, excepting Nos. 14 and 15, the discussion on which was adjourned.

THIRD SECTION.—Industrial Statistics.—Manufactures, Mining, and Agriculture.

Present.—Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Vice-President, in the chair; M. Visschers, of Belgium, Vice-President; Mr. William Donnelly, Vice-President. Secretaries.—Dr. Otto Hübner, R. Hunt, A. Bonham-Carter, Norton Shaw, William Clode.

The name of Professor J. K. Daa, of Norway, was added to the list of foreign secretaries, and that of Dr. Hermann, of Bavaria, to that of vice-presidents.

M. Visschers addressed some remarks to the section on the classification of mining produce, which led to a discussion in which the Chairman, Lord Harry Vane, M. Adrien Naville, Dr. Hermann, M. Villemssen, and Mr. Hunt took part.

Mr. Clode, one of the secretaries of the section, read a paper by Mr. Alexander Redgrave, one of her Majesty's inspectors of factories, on the statistics of the manufacture of textile fabrics in the United Kingdom.

FOURTH SECTION.—Commercial Statistics.

Mr. Nassau W. Senior, President, read a letter from M. Maurice Block, enclosing a copy of his "Statistique de la France comparée avec les autres pays de l'Europe."

The President called upon Mr. Crawford to open the subject of the Statistics of Banks. Mr. Crawford explained the paper drawn up by him on the subject. M. Otto Hübner, having stated that the statistics of banks was a subject upon which he had especially collected statistics, and to which he had directed much attention, suggested more detailed information than was proposed in the programme.

Mr. Ayres made some remarks upon the different constitution of banks and as to the classification of them.

Mr. Stuart Donaldson laid upon the table a minute of the Australian Association with reference to the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint. The minute recommended that the Australian sovereign, coined in the Mint of Sydney, be made a legal tender throughout her Majesty's dominions.

FIFTH SECTION.—Census.—Naval and Military Statistics.

Earl Stanhope presided, and was supported by the delegates of France, Holland, Russia, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, and Spain. Several English members were also present.

The remaining propositions of the programme respecting the Census, and the suggestions in the paper of Mr. Hammack upon this important subject, were fully discussed, and carried, with certain amendments. The paper of Dr. Farr "On the occupations of the People" was also discussed, and the propositions contained in it were adopted. It was unanimously agreed by the section that M. Legoyt, the Chief of the Statistical Bureau at Paris, and Mr. F. Hendriks, should undertake the duty of reporting these propositions to the general meeting of the Congress to be held on the following day.

The discussions in the section were, as on the preceding day, of an interesting character.

SIXTH SECTION.—Statistical Methods, &c.

Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., in the chair.

M. Quetelet explained the object of the report from M. Fritsch and himself, presented yesterday, with reference to a uniform method of observing botanical and zoological phenomena.

The report was received by the section. Thanks were voted to Messrs. Quetelet and Fritsch for the care and ability shown in its preparation, and M. Quetelet was requested to report on the subject to the general meeting.

A communication was read from Mr. Winter Jones, enclosing the corrections of his paper, agreed to by M. Van de Weyer and himself, which were adopted by the section. The Chairman then called on Dr. Guy to read his paper on Statistical Methods and Signs. Dr. Guy referred in the course of his reading to a variety of diagrams of statistical signs and symbols and tabular forms which he had prepared.

Sir John Bowring, Mr. Babbage, Mr. Fox, Mr. Purdy, Mr. Mocatta, Admiral FitzRoy, and among the foreign gentlemen present M. Schwabe, and M. Châtelain, took part in the discussion.

The thanks of the section were voted to Dr. Guy for his valuable paper, which was adopted by the section without alteration, and he was requested himself to report it to the general meeting of the Congress.

At the general meeting of the Congress, held in the afternoon, Lord Brougham presided.

The following gentlemen were announced as deputies from English societies:—From the British Association for the Advancement of Science—Sir

Roderick Murchison; Mr. Nassau W. Senior. National Association for the Promotion of Social Science.—Mr. G. W. Hastings, Mr. A. Edgar, Dr. Farr, &c. Manchester Statistical Society.—Mr. Thomas Bazley, M.P.; M. David Chadwick; Mr. J. A. Turner, M.P.; Mr. James Heywood; Mr. C. H. Minchen.

The foreign delegates then continued their reports on the progress of statistics in their respective countries; papers were read by the delegates for Brazil, France, Prussia, Sweden, Spain, and the United States. They were followed by similar communications from the delegates of the British colonies and dependencies.

Baron Czernig, who took the chair, at the request of Lord Brougham, during the latter part of the proceedings, thanked the several delegates for their valuable communications, and the meeting adjourned.

FOURTH DAY.

The several sections met this day. The attendance was numerous. In section two the Earl of Shaftesbury occupied the chair. The minutes of yesterday's proceedings having been read and adopted, the Noble Chairman read a letter from Miss Nightingale, expressing her entire concurrence in the additions to her paper on the method of taking hospital statistics. At the termination of Dr. Farr's paper on "General Sanitary Statistics," the following propositions were discussed:—The sanitary condition of each nation, and of each district in England and France, should be distinctly exhibited, and a rate of mortality per 1,000 determined. The mortality, the mean lifetime (*vie moyenne*), and the fatal diseases of each population should be determined for the whole people. For this purpose, life tables should be constructed. At the Census the numbers suffering from the principal infirmities and disabling diseases should be ascertained. The numbers sick in hospitals, their mortality, and the duration of their illnesses, should be investigated. The stature, the weight, the strength, the working power, and the intelligence of the people, should be explored wherever practicable. In investigating the causes of health and disease, the effect of varieties of habitation, density, proximity, elevation, latrines, income of the population, should be especially investigated.

As occupations have a marked influence on the health of the people. The section recommends a special inquiry in every State into the effect of the principal occupations of its people on health. The propriety of appointing health officers, and adopting measures to secure the publication of periodical reports among the people of each locality, showing the state and progress of their sanitary condition is strongly insisted. In every State, quarterly returns should be published of the marriages, births, deaths, as well as annual returns of the deaths and fatal diseases at each quinquennial period of life. In large cities weekly tables, such as those of London, should be published. In this manner the sanitary condition of each part of the population will become known; and the efficacious measures which may be discovered in any country can be applied in all others; so the health of the human race will be improved, and each nation will get its full share of the benefit.

The third section (Industrial) was employed in discussing Mr. Caird's paper on agricultural districts.

In section four (Commercial) Mr. Stuart Alexander Donaldson, formerly principal secretary to the government of New South Wales, read a paper on Australian mints, showing the value of the Australian coin to be precisely the same as the imperial, and giving reasons in favour of the proclamation of the colonial sovereign as an imperial coin.

In the fifth section (Census) the "Military and Naval Statistics" formed the topic of conversation, and the section was occupied throughout its sitting in discussing the propositions of Mr. T. Graham Balfour, which were generally agreed to, and were as follows:—It is desirable that returns showing the sickness, mortality, and invaliding of armies should be established, and the results published periodically. It is essential that these returns should state the average strength during the period included in the return, the number of admissions into hospital, the number discharged from hospital, and the number remaining in hospital, the number of deaths from

all causes, the number of men discharged as invalids and the diseases by which the admissions, deaths, and invaliding have been occasioned. The return should embrace the ages of the men and their length of service. These returns should be made not only for the whole army, but for each station occupied by troops. The section strongly urges the necessity of stating in statistical returns of the army, not merely general results, but the detail of figures upon which these results have been founded. Where, for the sake of comparison or of obtaining information in a condensed form, a classification of diseases has been adopted, returns should also be given showing in detail the specified diseases of which each class is composed; and vague terms, such as "other diseases," "diseases of the skin," "disease of the lungs," &c., should be avoided.

In the sixth section Mr. Valpy's paper on "International Statistics" was further considered.

At one o'clock several members of the Congress attended in the Theatre in King's College, where Col. Sir Henry James, R. E., Director of the Ordnance Survey, explained the plan on which it was made.

At two o'clock the usual proceedings of reporting were proceeded with in the meeting of the General Congress.

GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Earl of Ellesmere, the President, issued cards last week for the annual meeting of the society at Bridgewater House. The splendid galleries were thronged with a brilliant and crowded assemblage of ladies and gentlemen. It is rarely enough that the formal business of a learned society collects so important a gathering in so magnificent a chamber.

In the absence of the Earl of Ellesmere, the chair was taken by Lord Ebury. Among the gentlemen present were the Dean of Manchester, the Lord Advocate of Scotland, Sir B. W. Bridges, Sir T. M. Wilson, the Hon. H. E. R. Curzon, Rev. T. Hugo, Mr. W. M. Thackeray.

In the course of his speech, Lord Ebury said that the object of the association was to assist history by enabling families to trace out their genealogy. That they had already enlisted public sympathy to a great extent in their favour was shown by the fact that documents of great value and importance relating to family history have been entrusted to them. They had been copied, registered, compared, and placed in form, so that they were enabled to unravel many very remarkable pedigrees, particularly in the older times, which had hitherto been unknown to the historian. He did not know to what extent the study of genealogy might be capable of affording aid to other sciences, but they would hear to-night a lecture on the application of technical memory to the study of history, and it might be worth considering how far genealogy could be made subservient to the mnemonic study of history. For instance, they would remember that in many cases the names of families are connected with their arms, and some mottoes contain the name. The noble chairman mentioned, as examples, the mottoes of the Vernon and Temple families, and the arms of Rollo, which he described thus—Three French rolls, or; two parchment rolls, *en chevron*; motto, "Jouez bien votre rôle;" and some others. The Noble Lord continued: I strongly recommend this association to public notice, having been one of those who have profited by its labours. I was very anxious to find out the descent of a family who had inhabited the house I live in. I applied to the secretary of this society, and by the aid of the machinery which the association has at its command, I was able to obtain the information I wanted, and to illustrate a very curious point in history. Every one now reads history, and there can be scarcely anything more interesting than the illustration of those points in the history of any country, but especially of our own, which have hitherto remained obscure. (Hear, hear.) In the course of his speech Lord Ebury was slightly autobiographical. He said that when called to the Upper House he felt inclined, though he had not done it, to adopt one of these two mottoes—"Ebury quid nitidius," or "Vir non semper viret." In one case he had tested the utility

of the society, and by its assistance ascertained some curious points of history.

Mr. Reeve read the report. The following passages indicate the nature of the society's labours:—"In the last report it was stated that it was greatly to be deplored that, through the neglect of those who lived in more stirring and troublous times, and had less taste for literature than the present generation, better care had not been taken to preserve family muniments, which, but for the praiseworthy exertions of a few men, who devoted their lives and fortunes to making collections of MSS., would have inevitably been lost to families in the present generation, if not altogether destroyed. What those celebrated antiquaries and genealogists have left ungathered, and the collections made by others of less celebrity, which hitherto have been retained in private depositories, and have been seldom referred to, and are still unindexed, together with those evidences in the archives of private families which relate chiefly to the ancestry and alliances of the possessors, it is one of the purposes of this society to collect and make available; and in this task the council and committee of research have been promised the co-operation and aid of many influential fellows who have the means of furthering such purpose. The council have had several folio volumes prepared, and have commenced a general record of genealogical and historical memoranda, with copious indices of names and events. Besides continuing the compilations alluded to in previous reports, and making, in most instances gratuitously, very many ordinary and special searches and investigations for fellows, the council have to report that a large mass of genealogical and historical matter has, since last year, been collected from public archives, private collections, and muniment rooms, among which may be mentioned the valuable Cotton MSS., at Combermere Abbey, free access to which was kindly permitted by Viscount Combermere; and the collections of several other noblemen, who have granted similar permission, will be examined during the present year; and where extracts are made, the name will be included in the general index, *nominum et locorum*, and full references given to the source whence obtained, and of all corroborative evidence and authorities that may from time to time be found."

The report, accounts, and list of fellows were ordered to be printed and circulated.

The Chairman read the financial statement, from which it appeared that the balance in the bankers' hands was £12 14s., while the arrears of subscription amounted, he was sorry to say, to £679 7s. (A laugh.) The expenses had been £178 14s. 8d., besides £5 for sundries, leaving a balance in favour of the society of £208 6s. 4d. (Hear, hear.)

Highly interesting papers were then read by the Rev. T. Hugo, "On the Domesday Survey;" by Mr. H. R. Hamilton, "On the Anglo-Saxon Kings, Chronicles, and Heraldry;" Professor Christmas delivered an extempore address, "An Historical and Archaeological Discourse on Half-a-crown;" Dr. Pinks, of Vienna, read a paper "On Artificial Memory, as applied to the Study of History."

These discourses were heard throughout with deep interest and attention, and were received with cordial approbation. Refreshments were served in the east room of the Picture Gallery. The company promenaded the splendid rooms; and the noble gallery as usual yielded the highest gratification to the hundreds that examined the paintings. The proceedings terminated about midnight.

EXPEDITION OF THE ASTRONOMERS TO THE NORTH OF SPAIN.

Most of the astronomers went on board the *Himalaya* on the 6th. This is a magnificent vessel, and the thanks of the astronomers are due to the Admiralty for having placed such a ship at the service of the Astronomer-Royal and his staff, and also for the very liberal manner in which they have provided for them while on board. The officers have done everything in their power to make the expedition pleasant. Among those on board were many distinguished passengers—namely, the Astronomer-Royal, M. Odm, M. Struvé, and his assistant, Dr. Winnecke; M. Lindell, M. Müller, M. Lindhagen, M. Dormer, M. Fearnley, Mr. De La Rue,

(and his assistants, Mr. Downes, Mr. Beckley, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. E. Beck), Professor Swan, Mr. Stanistrut, Rev. C. Frichard (and his assistants, Mr. Fazel and Mr. Wright), Mr. E. J. Lowe (and his assistants, the Rev. W. R. Almond and Mr. S. Morley), Mr. Lassell, Professor Grant, Captain Jacob, Mr. Bonomi, Mr. Ellis, Admiral Kingcombe, Mr. Atwood, Mr. Beck, (and his assistant, Mr. W. Beck), Mr. Buckingham, the Rev. H. A. Goodwin, Mr. Galton, Mr. Gray, Mr. Heath, Dr. MacTegart, Mr. Perry, the Rev. J. Perone, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Pole, Mr. Seamour, Mr. Scott, the Rev. W. Vignoles, Mrs. Airy, Miss Airy, Mademoiselle Struvé, and Mrs. Vignoles. We have given a full review in our columns of Mr. Vignoles's admirable book on the subject, published by Longman. After passing Earne Head, England was soon lost sight of, and no more land seen until the Spanish coast was sighted at 4 a.m. on the 9th. Between 3 a.m. and noon on the 8th there was a very strong breeze, almost a light gale, which made the bulk of the passengers anything but comfortable—so little so, that when the Rev. W. R. Almond conducted Divine service, very few except the crew were enabled to be present. At 3 p.m. a thunder-storm occurred, and in the evening there was much lightning over France. In three hours after sighting Spain, anchor was cast outside the bar at Bilbao, and speedily the ship was surrounded by small craft and a steamer crowded with astonished passengers. At 8 a.m., another steamer, containing the Spanish Consul, Mr. Vignoles, C.E., and other authorities, came alongside, and after breakfast, the Astronomer-Royal and a large party left the ship for various points of the central line of eclipse. At Santander the Spanish Consul, English Consul, and Harbour-Master, &c., came on board and offered every civility. The luggage was passed through the Customs duty free and without examination, passports were not even asked for, and Illustrissimo S. D. Tomas Zvarola, managing director of the Santander Railway, gave free passes on the line during the astronomers' stay in Spain. At Bilbao Mr. Vignoles threw open his house to the astronomers; and at Santander, Reynosa, and Los Corrales, the son of Mr. George Mould, the constructor of the railway, and Mr. Philip Sewell, the manager, received the remainder of the exhibition as their guests. S. D. Augustin Gutierrez, the principal, and two professors, of the Government College at Santander, waited upon the party at Mr. Sewell's house, as a commission from the University of Valladolid, to offer every assistance in their power. Indeed the expedition has met with the greatest attention from the authorities of the Spanish Government, and the Spanish proverb "That Heaven is sure to take care of the astronomers" appears true. We are informed that Mr. Warren de la Rue and an accomplished staff of photographers have departed for the Peninsula, to endeavour to record, by the aid of the camera, the phenomena exhibited.

THE LATE MR. JOSEPH SORTAIN.—Brighton has just now to deplore the loss of its most eminent dissenting minister. For several years past few local names have stood higher in the theological world than that of Joseph Sortain. Mr. Sortain's Biblical and Hebraical attainments were considerable; he was also an excellent linguist, and an equally able mathematician. He wrote several of the more popular works issued by the Religious Tract Society, contrasting favourable with most of the series by their high literary merit. In many respects Mr. Sortain was a remarkable man, in none more so than the way in which, despite great natural defects, he attained a high degree of oratorical excellence. Monotonous in tone, commonplace in manner, unmusical in voice, he nevertheless rose into real eloquence through the dignity of his subject and the earnestness of his manner. His sermons were most carefully brought out, and well delivered, from very slender notes; and his chapel was filled by very large and intellectual congregations. Mr. Sortain, though indisposed for several weeks, yet died somewhat suddenly at last; he preached only a Sunday or two before, and was taking a week's holiday to recruit. His loss must be deplored as the loss of an able and well-meaning man, who has effected no small good in his day by his exertions and his example.

ON MUSICAL PITCH

BY THE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC IN THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

I MUST go on to speak of another equally variable element, *pitch*. It is a familiar fact that some instruments are tuned higher than others; all singers complain of this fact, and all must therefore admit the value of a fixed standard of pitch. Nor is such a standard difficult of attainment, regarding the question theoretically; for tubes of certain dimensions will give certain fixed sounds, and the velocities of vibrations, by which sounds are produced, can be accurately estimated in several ways. The only practical difficulty has been to induce all men to agree on any one fixed pitch as their universal standard; and this practical difficulty has hitherto been found almost insurmountable. The Chinese sought for and found a standard some 2,000 years before the Christian era. We may fairly conclude that wherever wind instruments have been in use, a fixed pitch of some sort must have existed, although no reliable records tell us what that pitch was till comparatively modern times. But to come to a time when some conclusion may be drawn, let us inquire what was the usual standard of pitch in this country after the Reformation? Here we are met at the outset of our inquiry by a difficulty which has perplexed many inquirers. The first musical instruments of that date, such as flutes and pipes, were tuned at least a whole tone below our modern vocal pitch, and a minor third below the present opera pitch. On the other hand, the ecclesiastical music of Tallis and his contemporaries and immediate successors, is set so very low for the voices, that it cannot be supposed for a moment that it could have been sung at a lower pitch than is usual now; indeed, the contrary to this appears probable almost to certainty. We are driven then to the supposition that two different standards of pitch were then in use—one being the church pitch, very acute, and the other the concert pitch, very much lower than any in use at present. A strong corroboration of this theory may be found in the marvellously-high pitch of the oldest organs in Germany. In Mr. Hopkins's book on the organ, page 165, the author tells us that he was frequently struck with the extreme sharpness of the pitch of the ancient organs in Germany. "Of the three great instruments at Hamburgh, two—namely, that in St. Catherine's church, which is the oldest, and that in the church of St. Jacobi, built in the seventh century—proved to be a whole tone above the philharmonic C tuning-fork. The transept organ in St. Mary's church at Lübeck, another old instrument, on being tested was also found to be a whole tone above the same pitch; while that in one of the other churches in the same old town was a full semitone above the same pitch. On the inquiry being made of the organists of the three forementioned churches how they accounted for this circumstance, they explained that their organs were tuned to the *church pitch*; and it subsequently transpired that in Germany three distinct standards of pitch had at different times been used to which to tune organs, namely—orchestra pitch, which was the lowest; chamber pitch, a semitone above the former; and church pitch, which was the highest. On extending these inquiries to an organ-builder of that country, that person stated that he had almost invariably found the old organs which he had been called upon to repair, tune, or replace by new ones, a semitone or a whole tone sharper than the present concert pitch. Not the least interesting proof of the former existence of a high church pitch is to be found in the fact that Seb. Bach, in his church cantatas, in most cases wrote the organ part a *note lower* than the other parts." Now if such was the old practice in Germany, as Mr. Hopkins has satisfactorily proved, and as my own experience amply corroborates, there is every probability that the same variety of pitch also obtained in England in the days preceding the Great Rebellion. Unfortunately, almost all the old organs in the country were destroyed at the time of the Commonwealth, and those which remained were so altered and modified in subsequent times, that no argument can be drawn from them as to the previous pitch. The organs built by Father Smith after the Restoration were not quite so sharp as the ancient German pitch, but still con-

siderably sharper than the ordinary pitch of modern church organs. In the case of two of them which I have tested, and in which the original pitch was unaltered, the treble C was nearly as sharp as the modern opera pitchfork, which is the highest pitch now known. Renatus Harris adopted a somewhat lower pitch, so that at the period to which I now refer, uniformity of church pitch had been lost. The discrepancy between the standards adopted by these two great rival organ-builders may be accounted for by the fact that whereas Smith came from Germany, where a very high church pitch prevailed, Harris came from France, where the "ton-de-chapelle" was very flat indeed, as may be proved both by the existence of organs of that date in France, which are at least a semitone below modern philharmonic pitch, and by plain intimations to the same effect which are to be met with in the admirable old work on organ-building, by Dom Bédos de Celles.* It is remarkable, however, that the concert or chamber pitch of that date was at least a whole tone lower than the church pitch. Of this I have been convinced by an old tuning-fork which I once came across, which was supposed to be of Purcell's time, and which was at least a semitone below the new French standard. It would seem that in this country as well as on the Continent, the church pitch was gradually lowered after this period, till it coincided with the concert pitch, or even got below it. The concert or chamber pitch meanwhile slowly began to rise, and this elevation has continued to increase up to our own times; and it is probably attributable to the more general study of the violin as the leading instrument of the orchestra, and to that craving after brilliancy which would appear to be inseparable from the use of that instrument. About the time of Handel, organ-builders had reached the lowest pitch standard which they ever adopted. This may be seen by an inspection of the organs of Snetzler and the younger Harris in England, of Silbermann in Dresden and Strasbourg, of Clicquot and Dalléry in Paris, and the old organ at St. Peter's, at Rome, which is nearly a minor third below the modern French standard. The magnificent old organs in Seville Cathedral are also made to the same standard. Handel's tuning-fork is still in existence, and may be taken as a fair representation both of the church pitch, the opera pitch, and the chamber pitch, about the middle of the last century; as it is nearly certain that they then coincided. And it is a very fortunate circumstance that physical science can record a definite standard of pitch with the greatest accuracy, by ascertaining the number of vibrations of a sonorous body in a second of time, at any given pitch; and then committing that result to writing for the guidance of future generations. Now it is found that the shriller the note the quicker will be the vibrations; and no matter what instrument or what voice produces the sound, the same number of vibrations per second will always represent the same pitch, unalterably. Now two sounds, one of which vibrates half as quickly as the other, will be exactly an octave apart; and the intervening notes of the scale will be produced by numbers of vibrations per second intermediate between those of the octaves. It happens also that the note C, from which it is customary to reckon, is produced by an open pipe eight feet long, the C thus produced being the lowest note of a violoncello, or the lowest but one of a grand pianoforte. To produce the octave below this, a pipe twice as long (sixteen feet) will be required. A pipe thirty-two feet long, will give the octave below that again, which is the lowest note ever produced on any musical instrument. Now this note, produced by an open pipe thirty-two feet long, is assumed to be the result of thirty-two single vibrations, or sixteen double ones, in a second. The octave above, produced by the sixteen-foot pipe, is the result of thirty-two double vibrations; the lowest C of the

* In Tomkins's "Musica Des Sacra," published in 1663, immediately after the time direction, which I quoted before, we find a curious indication of pitch. He gives the F in the bass staff, and says—"Sit tonus fideles aperte longitudine duorum pedum semissis: sive 30 digitorum non geometricum." Now a pipe two and a-half feet long, even of the largest scale, produces not F, but a sharpest G natural; so that Tomkins's pitch is higher than any other on record. The difference between this church pitch and the contemporaneous concert pitch could not have been less than a minor 3rd, and was probably more.

violinello, produced by the eight-foot pipe, results from sixty-four double vibrations; four feet, or tenor C, from 128; middle C, or two-feet C, from 256; and the C on the treble staff results from 512 vibrations per second, and is produced by a pipe a foot long. The divisions of a musical string necessary to produce a major scale are as follow:—Do, 1; Re, 8-9ths; Mi, 4-5ths; Fa, 3-4ths; Sol, 2-3rds; La, 3-5ths; Si, 8-15ths; Do, 4. The number of vibrations belonging to these notes, being in inverse ratio to the divisions of the string, at the C pitch just described, will therefore be—C, 256; D, 288; E, 320; F, 341; G, 384; A, 426 2-3rds; B, 480; C, 512. Now these are such great and important advantages resulting from the adoption of this pitch, that it is bitterly to be regretted that practical difficulties at present preclude the hope of its becoming universal. As, however, the great inconvenience of a diversity of pitch has begun to be acknowledged, and attempts have from time to time been made to procure greater uniformity, it will not be uninteresting to review the steps which have been taken with a view to this object. Since the time of Handel the orchestral and opera pitch has risen very considerably, leaving the church pitch far behind. In England the rise has been for the most part a gradual one. In France the orchestral standard was in 1795 suddenly raised a semitone above the opera pitch, which remained unaltered some time longer. An attempt was made in the beginning of this century to stay the upward tendency of the pitch, by the preparation of a tuning-fork, of which the pitch was determined by Sir George Smart, in conjunction with Messrs. Braham, Naldi, and Griesbach, and Mrs. Billington, and which was authorised by the directors of the Philharmonic Society, and adhered to from 1813 to 1842. The pitch of this fork was about a semitone above Handel's, and as much below the standard now adopted by the same Philharmonic Society. In 1834 a great congress of musicians assembled at Stuttgart, to take the variations of pitch into consideration, and to recommend a standard with a view to universal adoption and permanence. They based their calculations on a thirty-two feet open pipe, which should be modified so as to give thirty-three single vibrations per second, instead of thirty-two. One theoretical advantage accrues from this plan, viz.—that the vibrations per second, corresponding to the notes of the major scale of C, can be given in whole numbers: C, 264; D, 297; E, 330; F, 352; G, 396; A, 440; B, 495; C, 528. Last year a commission was appointed by the French Government to investigate the question of pitch, and to propound an authoritative national standard. The standard recommended by them is about midway between the theoretical pitch of 512 vibrations per second, and the Stuttgart pitch of 528, for the treble C. The present excessively elevated opera pitch has reached an average of 455 vibrations per second for A, and 546 for C; so that the C and A of 1860 are identical with D flat and B flat of 1840, the pitch having actually risen a semitone in less than 20 years. This extraordinary sharpening of the pitch has been produced by a variety of causes. The wonderfully high register of the voices of some of our favourite vocalists may have been one; another may be the opinion which many instrumental performers hold (I think erroneously) that increased brilliancy of tone is secured by a more elevated pitch; but it is likely that the main cause is to be found in the fact that it is always possible to raise, and often impossible to lower, the pitch of an instrument; and therefore if one important instrument, such as the hautboy or clarinet, in an orchestra is found to be higher than the rest, it is rarely made to agree by lowering it, but the other instruments are more easily raised to accord with it. No wonder then that the pitch should thus have risen, with such a constant exciting cause always in operation, and with no authoritative standard to counteract the influence thus exercised. At the present time this excessively elevated pitch is exercising a very pernicious influence on music in many ways. In the first place, it enhances the difficulty of vocalising, so that the great standard works, which were written before the pitch was so high, have become infinitely more fatiguing to the singers than formerly—and there is no doubt that many good voices are ruined in consequence. In

the next place, we do not hear the works of Handel, Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, according to their composers' intention—a screaming effect, and a deterioration in quality, is introduced into the choruses, which must detract considerably from the beauty and sublimity of the result—and editions of some of these works have actually been published in transposed keys to meet this emergency. Thirdly, the very great difference which now exists between the orchestral pitch and that of church organs, is a fruitful source of inconvenience, and must tend to spoil good ears, and engender false intonation among singers. And, independently of the evils arising from so high a pitch, the want of uniformity is in itself a gigantic evil. For it is very detrimental to stringed instruments to have their pitch raised or lowered at each fresh place where they have to be employed, and many wind instruments are absolutely incapable of such alterations altogether. An eminent performer, for instance, acting on previous experience, provided himself, for a recent musical tour, with no less than thirteen concertinas, tuned to different pitches, varying to the extent of about a tone and a half. And there never was a period when this inconvenience was more felt than it is now, both on account of the greater prevalence of the evil, and on account of the increased number of concerts which are now given by every local musical association through the length and breadth of the land. Under these circumstances, about a year ago, the Society of Arts appointed a special committee, of which I had the honour to be a member, to consider the present state of the musical pitch in England, and to make any suggestions which might seem to them conducive to improvement and uniformity. Their inquiries were directed to three points:—first, whether a uniform musical pitch was desirable; secondly, whether a uniform pitch was possible; thirdly, supposing a uniform pitch to be desirable and possible, what that pitch should be. On the first two questions, an answer in the affirmative was soon arrived at, and it was agreed that a uniform musical pitch was both desirable and possible; when it came to be discussed what that pitch should be, a great difference of opinion prevailed. The arguments on both sides were carefully considered, and every fact bearing on the case was duly weighed, and at length a report was drawn up, and submitted to the council of the society, and by them received and adopted unanimously on the 5th of this month (June, 1860). The principal matters contained in this report I have already detailed in this lecture. The conclusion arrived at, and adopted by the council, was—"That the pitch 528 vibrations for C be recommended for universal adoption in this country." It was then moved, "That in order to promote the acceptance of this pitch, and with the view to its general adoption in this country, the Society of Arts be requested to undertake the preparation of a standard tuning-fork." A motion was then carried, "That a communication be made to the directors of orchestras, military bands, musical instrument-makers, and others interested in music, calling their attention to the foregoing resolutions, and especially requesting their co-operation in carrying them out." Now, my object in mentioning these resolutions here, is not only to show what earnest endeavours are being made to correct an intolerable musical abuse, but also in order that I may go on to urge as strongly as I can the expediency of co-operating with this movement for uniformity in every way. I would earnestly entreat all persons who have pianofortes to have them tuned to the pitch recommended by the Society of Arts. It is a medium pitch, neither very high nor very low, and in most cases no very violent alteration would be required in order to bring a pianoforte to it. The advantages of uniformity to singers, as well as to performers on stringed instruments of the violin tribe, (which always suffer by continually shifting their pitch to suit various pianofortes,) the relief which sensitive musical ears would assuredly experience when no longer exposed to the confusion and perplexity necessarily attendant on a varying pitch,—the beneficial effects on the pianofortes themselves, which would run no risk of alteration through varieties of tuning-forks in the hands of different tuners—all these considerations strongly fortify my argument, and render it really everybody's business, and everybody's advantage, to

carry out, as far as they can, the recommendations which have been put forward on such unexceptionable authority. And the same argument applies to organs. As far as my ear may be trusted, I think the organs at Christ Church and at Magdalen College Chapel are pretty nearly in accordance with the standard pitch; but the New College organ is more than a semitone lower. This discrepancy is very much to be regretted, and if ever an opportunity should occur, I should greatly rejoice if every organ, not in Oxford merely, but throughout England, were tuned alike. If all the concert-room organs were carefully tuned to this standard, the orchestras would be forced to follow them, and thus the whole affair would soon become such a confirmed habit, that it would come to be looked upon as a matter of course, and variations of pitch would be mere matters of history. The benefits of this movement, if it can only be made national, would not be confined to this country. The French have adopted a national standard of their own, differing very slightly, indeed, from that which is now proposed, theirs giving to C 522 vibrations per second, whilst ours gives 528—that is, differing only by 6 vibrations out of 528—which does not represent so much as an eighth of a tone. The present elevated opera pitch, on the other hand, is more than a semitone sharper than the French pitch; so that all French performers will have reason to rejoice at a pitch having been adopted so closely approximating to their own, and avoiding the very serious alterations which are now requisite when they have to accommodate themselves in this country to the elevated standard now so unfortunately prevalent. Nor will German performers have less reason to congratulate themselves on our reformation of the pitch, as we shall be adopting one which arose first among themselves at the Stuttgart Congress in 1834. Therefore, in fact, by adopting this standard, we shall be conferring a benefit on the musicians of all Europe, and surely such a consideration is of paramount importance in these days when international communication is so easy, and so much artistic intercourse exists between various countries. The only persons who are likely to object are the violinists, some of whom are under the impression that a high pitch improves the brilliancy of their instruments. But it is contended, in answer to this objection, that "elevation of the pitch of a violin, or cognate instrument, is necessarily attained either by the use of thinner strings or by tension so increased as to necessitate, sooner or later, the strengthening of the instrument by processes which of necessity decrease its volume, and, as it would seem, its power and richness in like proportion." Indeed, a letter was received by the committee of music pitch from Messrs. Withers and Co., violin manufacturers, wherein they say, "Having regard to those instruments with which we are especially conversant—viz., violins, violincellos, and double basses, we are of opinion that a pitch somewhat lower than the present would be favourable to those instruments. They would be more free to vibrate, and the tone would be of a better quality." And wind instruments, such as the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and especially the trumpet and horn, would most assuredly benefit by a lowered pitch. This is a fact which no one has attempted to deny.

By way of recapitulation, I will now compare the different standards which have been at different times adopted, and the extreme variety thus shown will sufficiently strengthen all the arguments for uniformity which I have been putting forward.

The lowest pitch I have met with was an old tuning-fork, said to be of the date of Charles II. The A on this fork gave 370 vibrations for A, equivalent to 383 1-3rd for C. The pitch of the organ in Trinity College, Cambridge, about the year 1755, was ascertained by the then master, Dr. Hob. Smith. The result was:—388 5-6ths for A, and 405 1-7th for C; Handel's fork, 1740, 416 for A, and 499 1-5th for C; Theoretical pitch, 426 for A, and 512 for C; Philharmonic Society, 1813, 433 for A, and 518 2-5ths for C; French standard, 1859, 435 for A, and 522 for C; Stuttgart Congress, 1834, 440 for A, and 528 for C; Italian Opera, London, 1859, 455 for A, and 546 for C; so that the proposed pitch is, after all, the highest but one of all these.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, July 18.

At last, then, we have got this "Semiramide" disguised, that we have been so long waiting for; and, after a fashion, it certainly has achieved a success. Rossini, with his habitual good taste, did everything he could to prevent the performance of a French translation of his Babylonian work—but it was all no use—they were resolved to have it; they had nothing else, and to say the truth, the two sisters Marchisio have, I believe, no other parts in which they produce any effect. The real fact of the matter is, that the two girls have one magnificent voice between them, but they must sing together or they do not produce the effect that is expected. Neither has a pre-eminently fine organ, on the merits of which she could stand, but when the two are joined, it certainly does make a singularly charming whole. Carlotta Marchisio, the soprano, or mezzo-soprano, has a sweet, true, but not very powerful voice. Power is, to say the truth, what both these sisters want. In the notes which ought to be the most effective, in the higher notes—from E to A, for instance—there is a lack of roundness and force, of weight, if I might be allowed to express it so; but there is nowhere any want of grace or of taste. Carlotta Marchisio really sings well, a rare thing in our day, and she showed it in her manner of singing "Bel raggio lusinghier," although her fright was so intense as to have, in the first opening scene, almost paralysed her utterance. The other sister, Barbara Marchisio, is the favourite in Italy, but I do not think she merits to be thus singled out from her companion. She has not as much grace, and she has not more breadth of style or power of voice to compensate for it. She is not more decidedly a contralto than her sister is a soprano; both of them are mezzo-soprano; one has the basis of her voice rather higher only than the other. There lies the whole difference. I despair of ever hearing the fine opening recitative of Arsace—the "Eccomi alfine in Babilonia" given with the largeness of manner that it requires. I certainly never have heard it sung as it should be, whether by the Alboni, the Borghi, or any other singer in existence. Barbara Marchisio will not supply the deficiency; she is wanting in nearly all the requisites of a first-rate Arsace, having only one, namely, that she has more *aplomb* than her sister. The one part of the whole in which the effect of these two sisters was wonderfully fine, was the famous duet, "Ebben a te ferisci!" Here, again, in the *solo* of the opening both wanted vigour; but, in the *andante*, "Giorno d'orrore," I never remember to have heard anything more perfect. The blending of the two voices was quite marvellous, and it was literally impossible at times to realise the fact of there being two. The *allegro* was less perfectly successful, though the *finale* was very spiritedly given; and here, for the first time, all their courage seemed to have come to the two heroines of the night. In parts, I have heard this splendid scene better executed; as a whole, I do not think I ever did so.

If from the music you pass to the getting up of the whole work, I do not suppose there ever was anything more gorgeous in the annals of the Grand Opera. Some thirty years ago, there are persons who recollect an opera produced under the Restoration, and entitled "Aladdin's Lamp," and these persons have till now persisted in saying that no magnificence ever came up to that shown in this said "Aladdin." Nothing has made them vary; they turned up their noses even at the "Juif errant," with all its extraordinary ram's-horn-shaped trumpets, and "winged bulls," enough to satisfy Mr. Layard perhaps, but not them. This time however, they are content, and admit that the Restoration never had any more dazzling spectacle than this new adaptation of "Semiramide." Of a truth, they would be hard to please if they did not agree to this, for a mint of money has been expended on the Assyrian queen's *entourage*. The tomb-scene, where the Ghost of Ninus appears, really transports one to Babylon, and makes one live in those magnificently-monstrous days. The "Semiramide" at the Grand Opera is undoubtedly a thing to see; whether it is a thing to go out of one's way to hear,

may, perhaps, be questioned. It is, to many ears, so murdered by being "done" into French, that all its beauty is damaged, if not destroyed. It would be unfair, at the same time, not to remark that Obin is one of the very finest Assurs that ever were on the lyric stage. Lablache himself had scarcely a finer voice, no one has a finer presence, and he both sings and acts sufficiently well to make himself, with the great advantages I have mentioned, a superb representative of the ambitious Ninevite.

Politics just now are an absorbing topic in Paris, and they bring out all the peculiarities of despotic rule. You will have supposed, naturally, that the discussion of last Thursday in your House of Commons must have produced a great effect here, but of how great that effect has been you can form no idea. For the last five or six years nothing that has occurred on your side of the water can compare with it for impression, and unpleasant impression. Somehow or other truth is a great master; and the author of "Eöthen" has established for himself a reputation for unswerving truthfulness that is admitted and submitted to even here. The consequence is, that when he brings out such statements as those he made on Thursday last, no living man, even among his enemies, really imagines they can be denied; and the statements, whatever they may be, take rank as true—they become facts as certain as geometrical propositions. The annoyance of the Imperial Government at having all its misdeeds revealed, is such, that at first it was not permitted even to allude to Mr. Kinglake's speech, and the way the whole debate was described was an exceedingly amusing one. After premising that Sir Robert Peel had "made various observations about the affairs of Sicily and Sardinia," (1) the "Moniteur" gave Lord John's answer pretty faithfully, and then it brought out this marvellously-turned little phrase—"Mr. Kinglake having indulged in a few remarks upon continental politics, Sir Robert Peel's motion was thrown out!" Sir Robert Peel, as we know, put no motion at all, but merely asked some questions in requesting a deposit of certain papers on the table of the House of Commons. A positive order was then sent to all the other newspapers—one of those "administrative" advices which caused M. Berryer to make so many happy allusions on Montalembert's trial—to "suggest" that with regard to the sitting of the 12th July, the "Moniteur" only should be copied, and no details given. This was eagerly obeyed. Well, now, notwithstanding this, every assertion made by Mr. Kinglake has gradually transpired; and by this time people are almost as well aware as you are of what was really said. This proves the strange insufficiency of despotism, and how human curiosity—becoming more and more intense by degrees as it is more and more compressed,—contrives to achieve knowledge where every possible barrier is raised to its achieving anything of the kind. I have over and over been struck by the phenomenon I mention, and I believe it is to be noted in all despotically-governed countries. The desire to know becomes, of course, a passion; and then, all human ingenuity being brought to bear upon it, it is not difficult to conceive how every hidden secret even is dragged to light. How much easier, then, when what is wished to be known is delivered over to all the winds of publicity in a neighbouring country?

The political public here, however—such of it as remains—is very much surprised to find that in England so much attention is paid to Mr. Kinglake's assertions about Lombardy, and so much curiosity spent on trying to discover where he got his information. Here the facts he stated are more or less known to all politicians; and, for instance, none of the "initiated" here are ignorant of the fact of Louis Napoleon's having offered all Lombardy back to Austria, if Austria would remain neuter on the Rhine.

Messrs. Hurst and Blackett announce for appearance on Tuesday next, Mr. T. W. Atkinson's new work, entitled "Travels in the Regions of the Upper and Lower Amoor, and the Russian Acquisitions on the Confines of India and China." Dedicated, by permission, to her Majesty. In one volume, with upwards of eighty illustrations.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.—Mr. Hind writes to the "Times" as follows:—At 1h. 38m. 24s., or ten seconds before the calculated time of commencement at this observatory, the eclipse had certainly not begun. On the next view of the sun, at 1h. 39m. 11s., the indentation of the moon upon his disk was very perceptible. I cannot speak positively as to the precise time of commencement, but I imagine it must have been later than the moment predicted (1h. 38m. 34s.) probably by between 20 and 30 seconds. This difference can hardly arise from absolute errors in the places of the sun and moon, though it is not too great to be produced by the correction which the assumed ratio of the diameters may require. With adequate magnifying power on Mr. Bishop's 10-foot equatorial telescope, inequalities on the preceding and following limbs of the moon were very distinct; they were great enough to render pretty certain the visibility of Baily's beads in the line of totality. Three solar spots were visible to the naked eye. At 2h. 29m. there was, to my eye, a perceptible diminution of sunlight, and the blue of the sky in breaks towards the N.E. was certainly deepening. At 2h. 32m. sensibly cooler. At 2h. 34m. the decrease in daylight was more perceptible, but a rather heavy nimbus cloud in the N.W. probably heightened the effect of the eclipse. At 2h. 37m. a large expanse of clear sky in the south; the blue was not of the ordinary tint—it appeared duller, or more of an indigo-blue; the air very chilly. At 2h. 42m., or about six minutes previous to the greatest eclipse, the deeper colour of the sky was very marked, in a break N.W. of the zenith. Near the horizon a mistiness had arisen, obscuring objects which were distinct enough at the beginning of the eclipse. At 2h. 48m., about the time of middle, with the sun shining clearly, the light thrown over the grounds of the Park was yellow, as frequently remarked on previous occasions when the sun has been equally obscured. At 3h. the eclipse was evidently lessening its effects, and six minutes later there was a very considerable difference in the blue of the sky, where it had been most changed. At 3h. 14m. the sun had almost recovered his full power. The following observations of the times of contact of the moon's limb with spots upon the sun's disk were taken by Mr. C. G. Talmage, assistant at this observatory:—

	h.	m.	s.
First contact with large dark spot.....	1	54	51
Central obscuration.....	1	55	32
Last contact.....	1	56	14
First contact of W. spot of two.....	2	44	9
Last contact.....	2	44	28
First contact of E. spot.....	2	44	44
Last contact.....	2	44	59
A dark spot wholly emerged.....	2	59	32
Another spot clear of the moon.....	3	26	20

At 2h. 30m. Mr. Talmage considered the sky much darker than five minutes previously; it had the appearance of a November sky just before a snow-storm. At 2h. 37m. the light of the sky was similar to that of a summer's morning about half an hour before sunrise. At 2h. 49m. (the time of greatest eclipse), Highgate church, visible at the commencement, could not be discerned; it was seen again at 3h. 10m. At 1h. 40m. the thermometer stood at 70.3 deg.; at 2h. 30m. the reading was 69.3 deg.; and at 4h. 68.8 deg. Thus, towards the time of greatest phase, the temperature fell 1 deg. in fifty minutes, but only 0.5 deg. in the next hour and a half. A telegram to the following effect has been received from Ciranda in Spain:—"The success was complete. We have two photographs of red flames, which prove they belong to the sun, and many photographs of other phases."

WROXETER EXCAVATIONS.—The uncovering of the room containing the forge, &c., has been continued, and several new features have been brought to light. The remains of another furnace have been found, and from some fragments of material which have been picked up it now appears probable that it was the workshop of an enameller. Among the objects found within the last few days is a well-preserved steel yard. The men are now partly employed in preparing the ruins for the meeting of the British Archaeological Association at Shrewsbury, which will begin on Monday, the 6th of August, and will, on one of the days of the meeting, visit the buried city of Uriconium, and be conducted over the excavations by Mr. Wright in person.

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The Court of Chancery, in a suit instituted for the purpose of obtaining a judicial decision upon the construction of the will, with great regret, pronounced the bequest void for uncertainty, and the annuity invalid under the Mortmain Act, and thus the well-known intention of their benefactor was frustrated.

The Committee then unexpectedly involved in debt, have no alternative but to appeal to those, who, grateful for the imperishable inheritance Shakespeare has left them in his writings, can sympathise with the Committee in their difficulties, and in their desire to carry out the laudable intentions of the Testator, who so fully evinced his appreciation of the honour of inheriting the name of Shakespeare.

Subscriptions will be thankfully received by Messrs. Smith, Payne and Smith, Lombard Street, London; at the Old Bank, Stratford-upon-Avon; by Mr. John S. Leaver, Secretary; or at Shakespeare's House, where a Book is kept to record donations.

Committee Room, Stratford-upon-Avon, June, 1860.